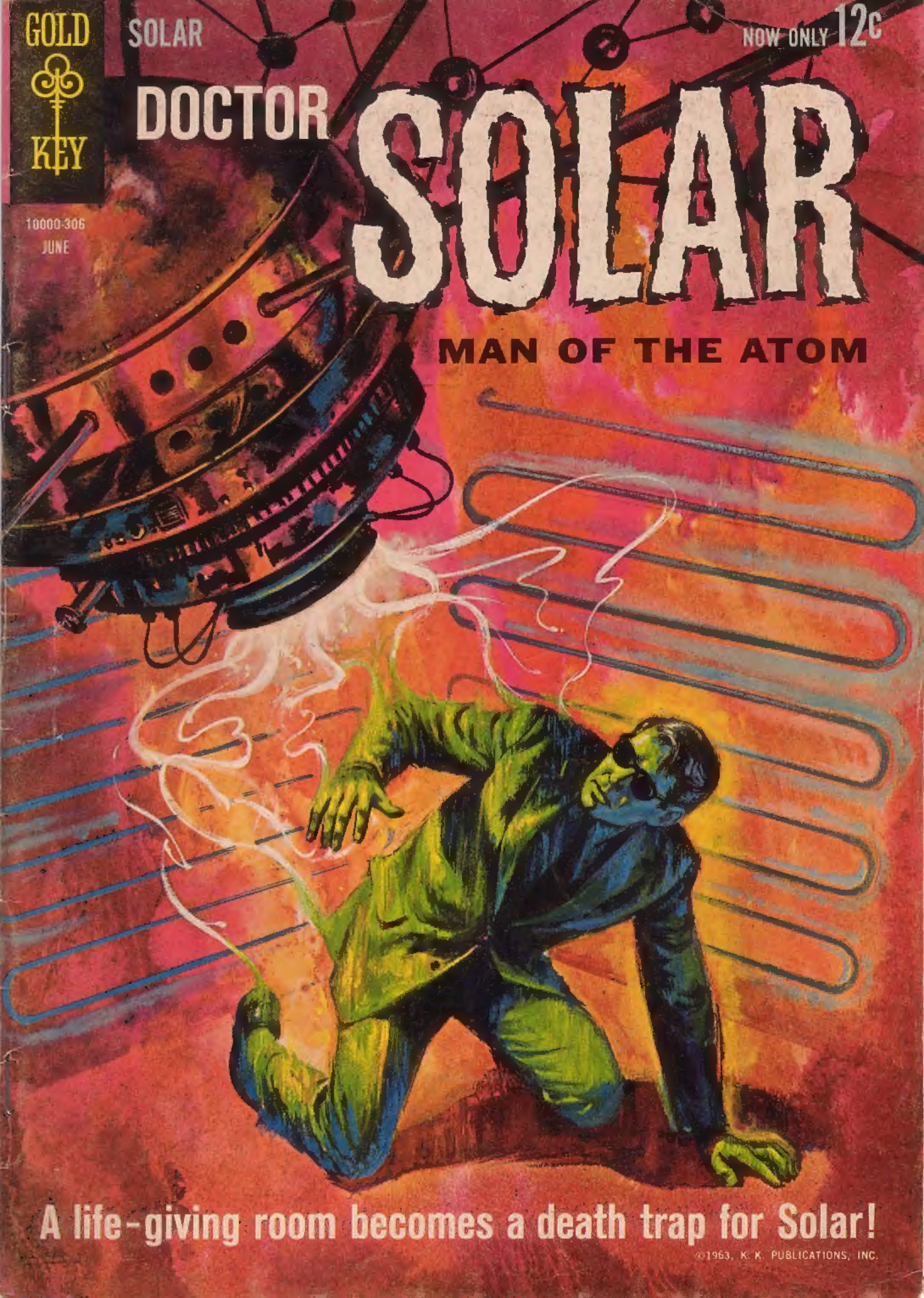
GOLD KEY
SOLAR
NOW ONLY 12¢
DOCTOR SOLAR
MAN OF THE ATOM
10000-306
JUNE
A life-giving room becomes a death trap for Solar!
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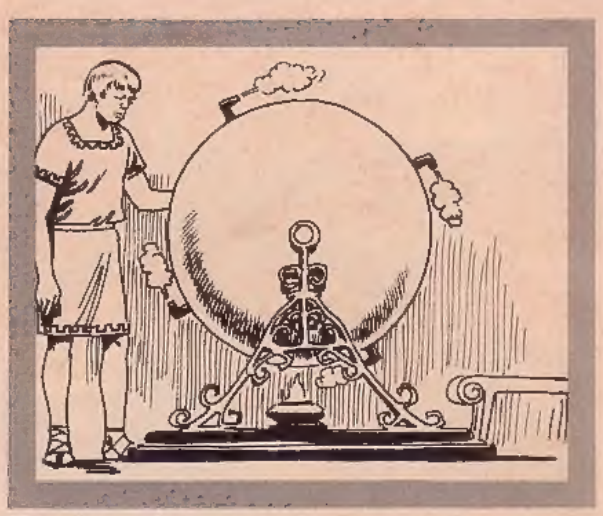
KEYS OF KNOWLEDGE

The HISTORY of FLIGHT

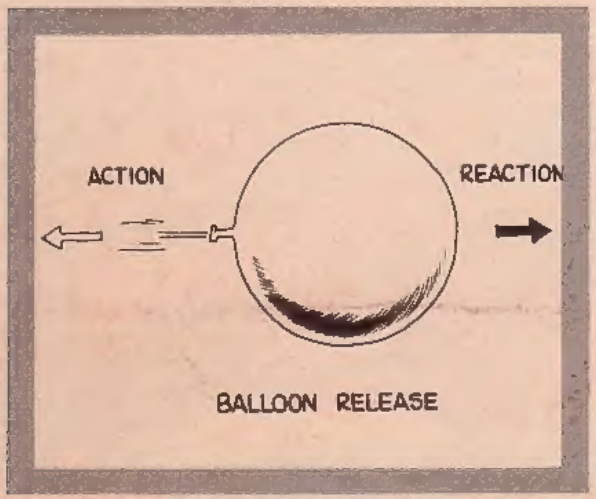
NUMBER 13

Jet Streams Around the World

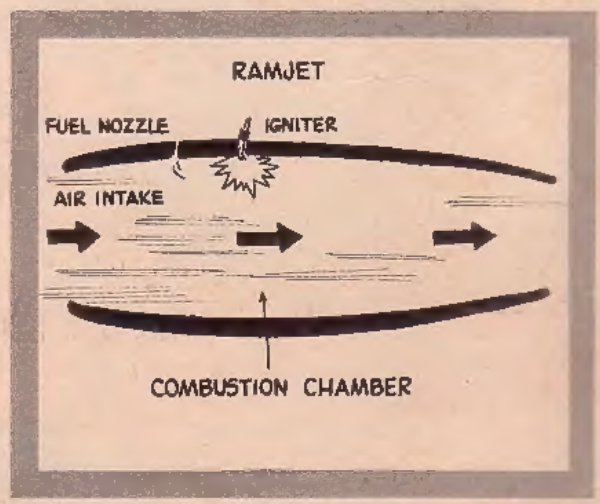
This is one of a series of information features in Gold Key Comics. Collect the whole series for useful knowledge.



The law of jet propulsion . . . that every action has an equal and opposite reaction . . . was discovered long ago in ancient Greece.



A toy balloon is a good example; the forward movement of the balloon is the reaction to the opposite action of the escaping air.



The workings of a jet engine are basically simple. Compressed air and fuel are set on fire. The gases expand and seek release.

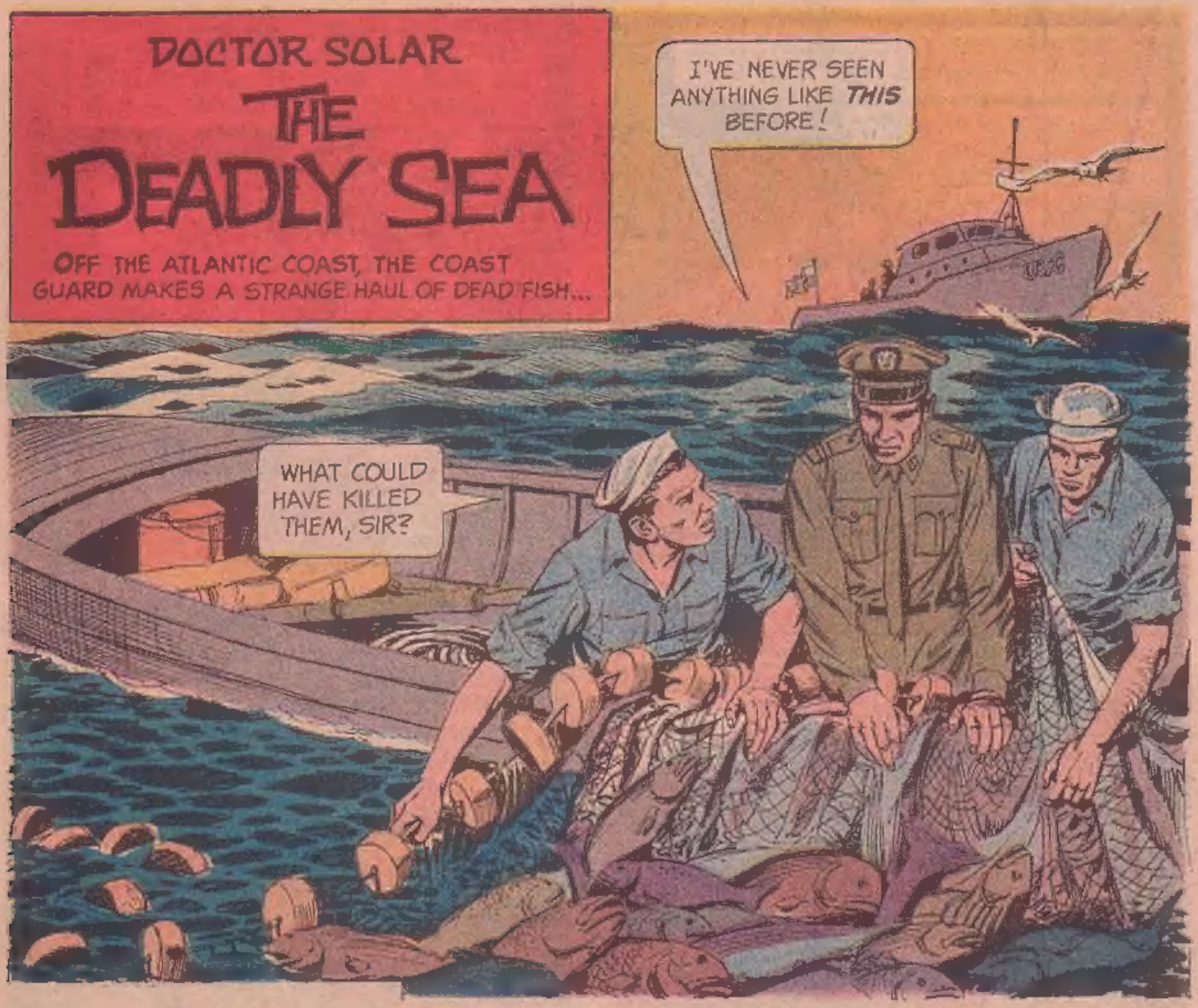
The force of the gases escaping out the back gives the plane its forward thrust. We see the vapor as white trails behind the planes.

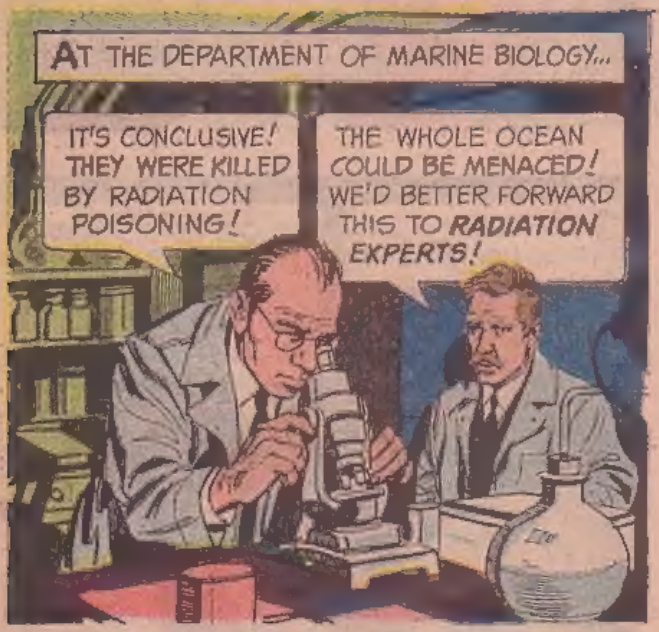
In 1944, Germany startled the world with the first jet planes and pilotless jet bombs . . . "buzz bombs" . . . ever used in war combat.

DOCTOR SOLAR

THE DEADLY SEA

OFF THE ATLANTIC COAST, THE COAST GUARD MAKES A STRANGE HAUL OF DEAD FISH...




AT THE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE BIOLOGY...
IT'S CONCLUSIVE! THEY WERE KILLED BY RADIATION POISONING!
THE WHOLE OCEAN COULD BE MENACED! WE'D BETTER FORWARD THIS TO RADIATION EXPERTS!

AND LATER, AT ATOM VALLEY...
SOLAR, WE MUST DETERMINE THE SOURCE OF THIS RADIATION! IF IT SPREADS, THE WHOLE WORLD COULD BE THREATENED!
SOLAR #4-63

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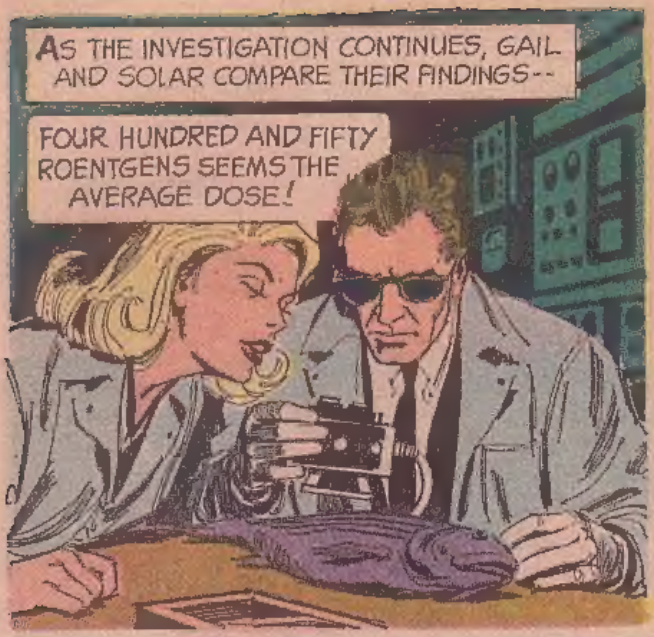
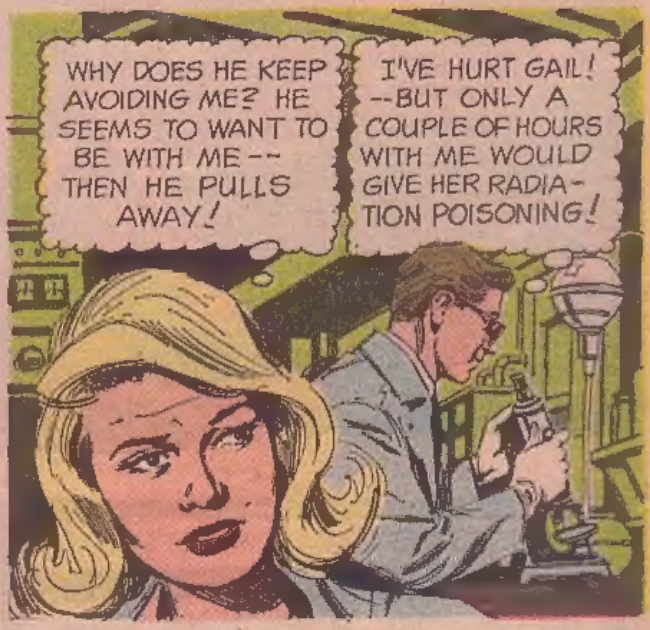
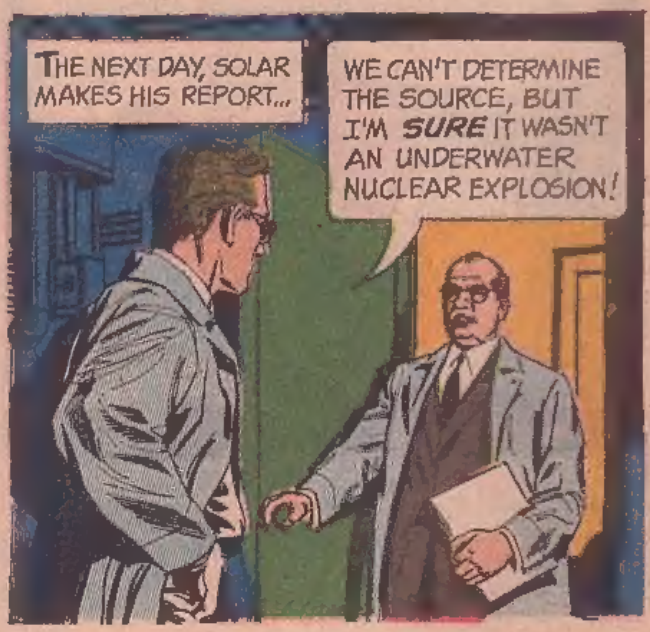

AS THE INVESTIGATION CONTINUES, GAIL AND SOLAR COMPARE THEIR FINDINGS--
FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY ROENTGENS SEEMS THE AVERAGE DOSE!

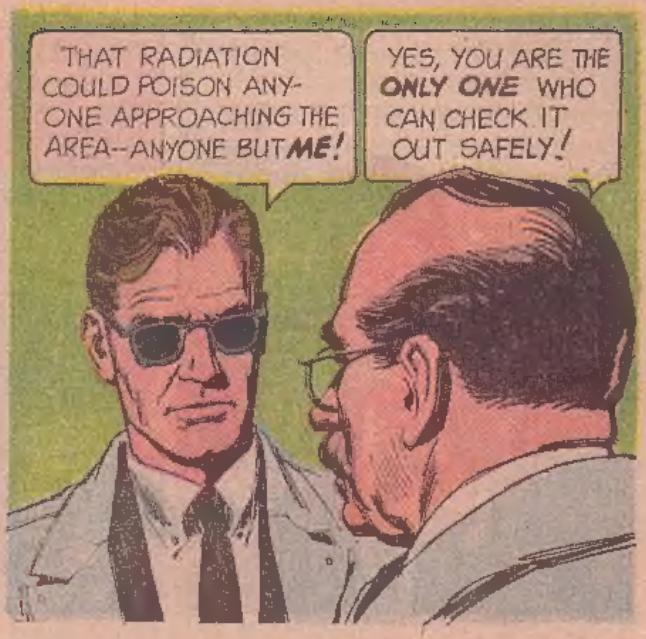
BUT WE CAN ONLY GUESS THE SOURCE!
DO YOU HAVE ANY GOOD GUESSES, GAIL?

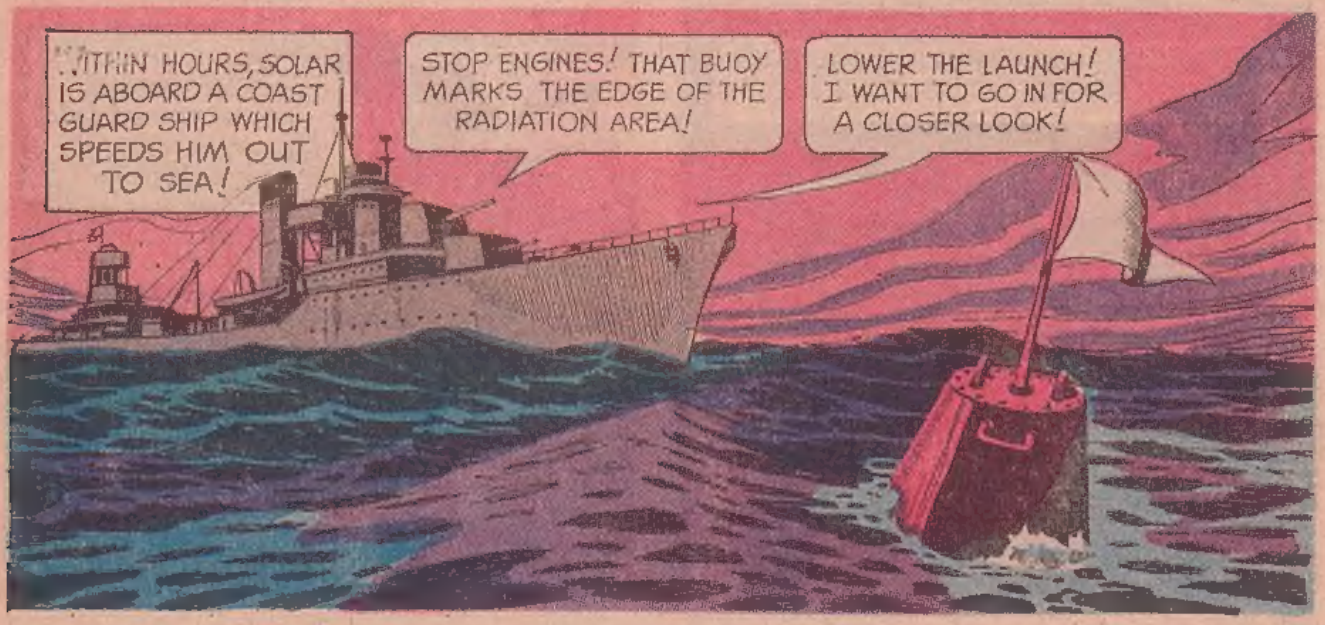
A FEW!--WHY DON'T WE TRADE THEORIES OVER A STEAK DINNER?
ER--YOU GO AHEAD, GAIL! THERE ARE STILL SOME LAB TESTS I'D LIKE TO MAKE!


WHY DOES HE KEEP AVOIDING ME? HE SEEMS TO WANT TO BE WITH ME--THEN HE PULLS AWAY!
I'VE HURT GAIL! --BUT ONLY A COUPLE OF HOURS WITH ME WOULD GIVE HER RADIATION POISONING!


THE NEXT DAY, SOLAR MAKES HIS REPORT...
WE CAN'T DETERMINE THE SOURCE, BUT I'M SURE IT WASN'T AN UNDERWATER NUCLEAR EXPLOSION!

ATOMIC WASTE CONTAINERS WERE BURIED AT SEA NEAR WHERE THE FISH WERE FOUND. IF ONE OF THOSE CASINGS BROKE, THERE WOULD BE A RADIATION LEAK--BUT NOT *THIS* MUCH!


THAT RADIATION COULD POISON ANY-ONE APPROACHING THE AREA--ANYONE BUT *ME!*
YES, YOU ARE THE *ONLY ONE* WHO CAN CHECK IT OUT SAFELY!


WITHIN HOURS, SOLAR IS ABOARD A COAST GUARD SHIP WHICH SPEEDS HIM OUT TO SEA!
STOP ENGINES! THAT BUOY MARKS THE EDGE OF THE RADIATION AREA!
LOWER THE LAUNCH! I WANT TO GO IN FOR A CLOSER LOOK!

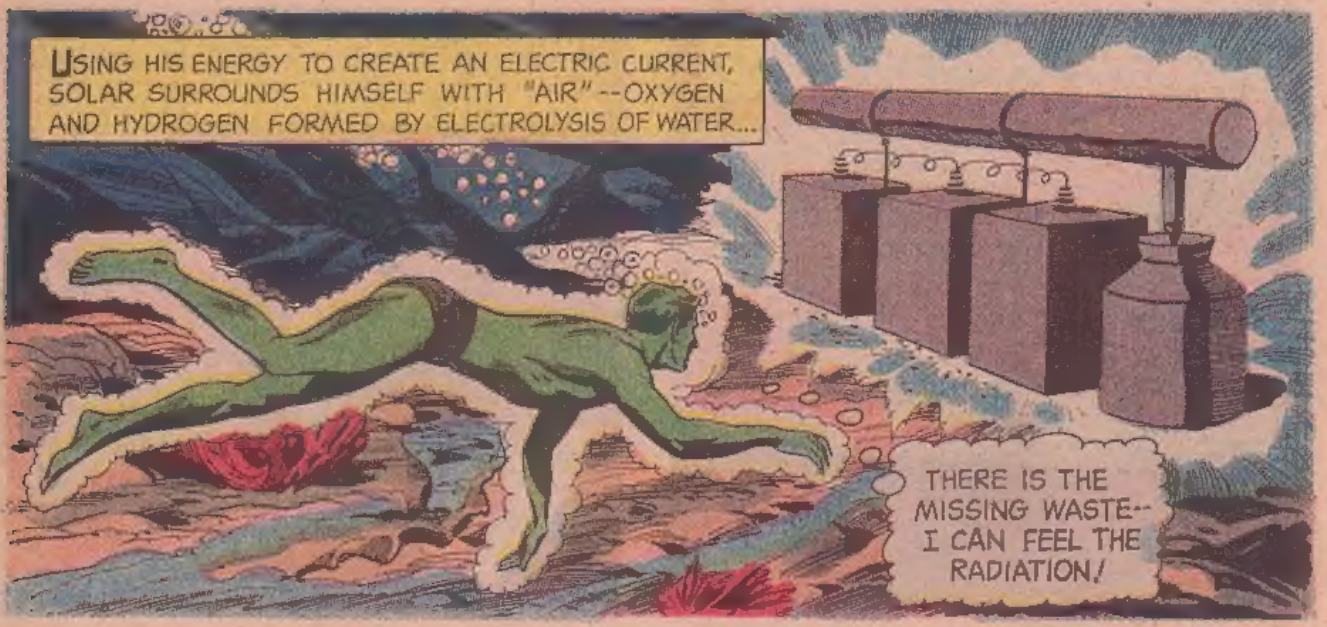
CAN'T THAT RADIA-TION HARM YOU?
NO! I HAVE PRO-TECTIVE CLOTHING IN HERE! I'LL BE SAFE!

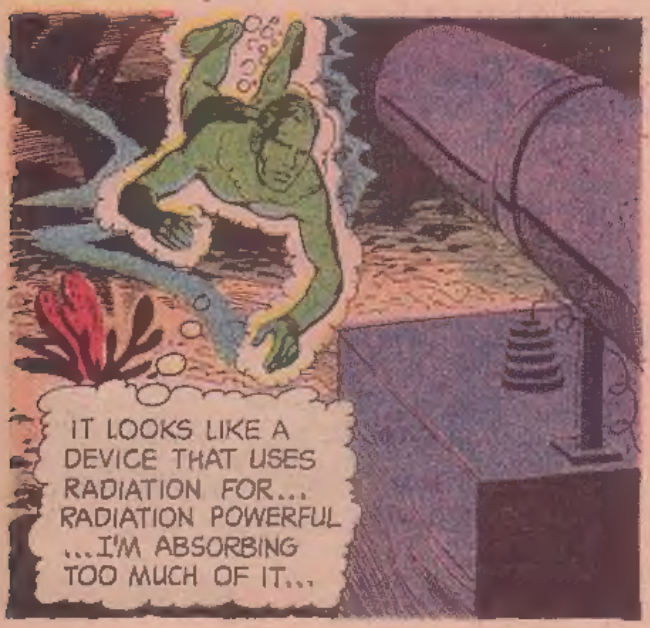
PUTTING OUT FROM THE SHIP, SOLAR CHECKS THE RADIATION COUNT...
IT'S HOTTEST HERE! *HOW* CAN I SEE WHAT'S BELOW?

I'LL TRY CONVERTING THE RADIATION FROM MY EYES INTO ULTRA HIGH FREQUENCY ENERGY!
FROM THE YOUNG SCIENTIST'S RADIOACTIVE EYES, BEAMS OF ENERGY PENETRATE THE OCEAN DEPTHS...
--AND LIKE RADAR SIGNALS, BOUNCE BACK TO HIS RADIOACTIVE BRAIN!
BELOW THE SURFACE, HIS RADAR-LIKE VISION REVEALS A TERRIFYING SIGHT!
ALL THOSE CONCRETE CASINGS HAVE BEEN BROKEN! --AND THEY'RE EMPTY!
SOMEONE HAS BROKEN INTO THOSE CASINGS AND REMOVED THE RADIOACTIVE WASTE!
BUT, WHY?-- AND WHERE IS IT NOW?

UNKNOWN TO SOLAR, HIS QUESTIONS COULD BE ANSWERED ON A NEARBY SEAPLANE...

...WHERE THE MAN KNOWN AS NURO DETECTS AN INTRUDER ON HIS LATEST PROJECT!
THE RADAR WARNING! SOME FOOL IS OUT THERE!--BUT THE RADIATION WILL TAKE CARE OF *HIM!*


USING HIS ENERGY TO CREATE AN ELECTRIC CURRENT, SOLAR SURROUNDS HIMSELF WITH "AIR"--OXYGEN AND HYDROGEN FORMED BY ELECTROLYSIS OF WATER...
THERE IS THE MISSING WASTE-- I CAN FEEL THE RADIATION!


IT LOOKS LIKE A DEVICE THAT USES RADIATION FOR... RADIATION POWERFUL ...I'M ABSORBING TOO MUCH OF IT...

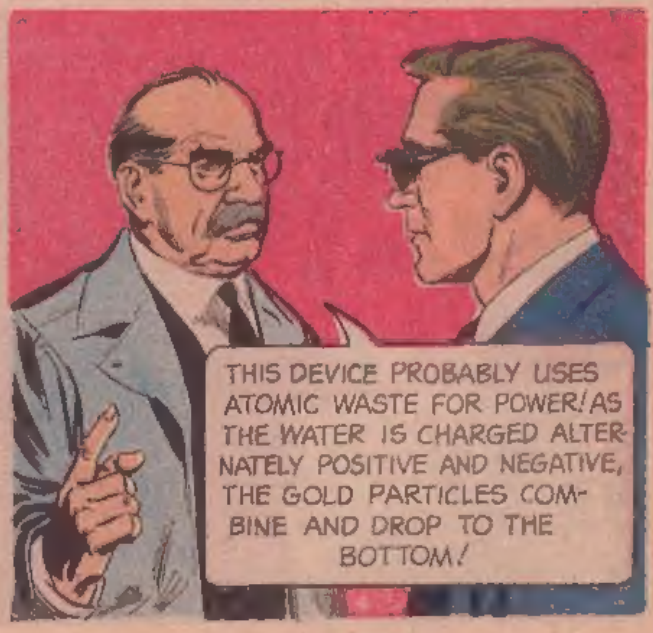
THE INTENSE RADIATION SETS UP A REACTION IN SOLAR'S BODY THAT BEGINS TO CONVERT HIS FORM INTO PURE ENERGY! FEARING THAT THE ENERGY WOULD BE LOST IN THE WATER, LEAVING HIM UNABLE TO RE-FORM, HE DECIDES TO LEAVE.

MADE IT!--THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL! I'D BETTER LEAVE THE AREA!

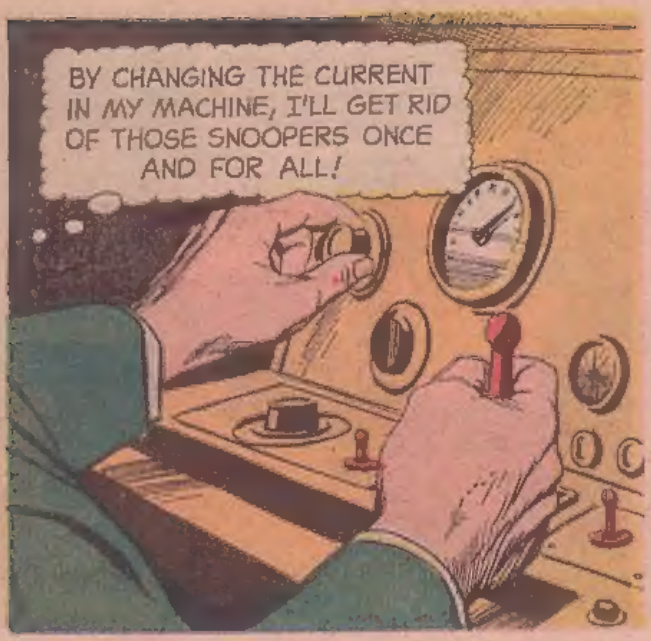
AS HE LEAVES, HIS DEPARTURE IS NOTED ON NURO'S RADAR SCREEN!
STRANGE--THE BOAT IS LEAVING! HOW COULD ANYONE SURVIVE THE RADIATION OUT THERE?

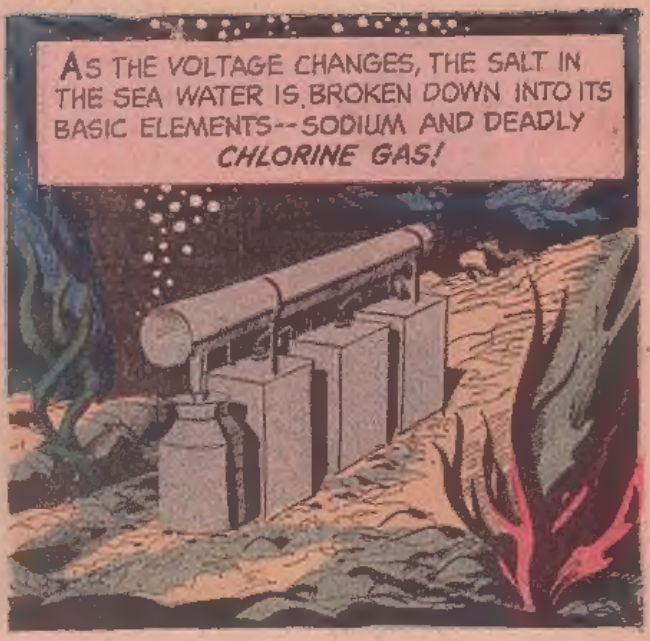
LATER, AT ATOM VALLEY, SOLAR DESCRIBES THE STRANGE UNDERWATER DEVICE...
--BUT I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT IT DOES!
I CAN! IT'S A GOLD ACCUMULATOR!

THERE'S MORE GOLD IN THE SEA THAN IN ALL THE WORLD'S VAULTS! IT FLOATS IN MICROSCOPIC PARTICLES! THE PROBLEM IS HOW TO CHEAPLY ACCUMULATE THOSE PARTICLES!


THIS DEVICE PROBABLY USES ATOMIC WASTE FOR POWER! AS THE WATER IS CHARGED ALTERNATELY POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE, THE GOLD PARTICLES COMBINE AND DROP TO THE BOTTOM!

INGENIOUS!
BUT DANGEROUS! OCEAN CURRENTS CAN CARRY THAT RADIATION TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD!
MEANWHILE, NURO'S SCHEME BEARS ITS FIRST FRUIT!
GOLD!--AN UNLIMITED SUPPLY --MINE FOR THE TAKING!
TWO DAYS LATER, A TRAWLER EQUIPPED WITH RADIATION PROTECTION ARRIVES AT THE SCENE...
OVER THE RADIATION AREA, SIR!
DROP THE DRAG LINES!
THEIR MISSION IS TO MOVE THE CONTAINERS TO A DEEPER SPOT AND BURY THEM!
BUT THE TRAWLER'S EVERY MOVE IS WATCHED...
ANOTHER SNOOPER! I'LL SEE TO IT HE WON'T STAY AROUND LONG!

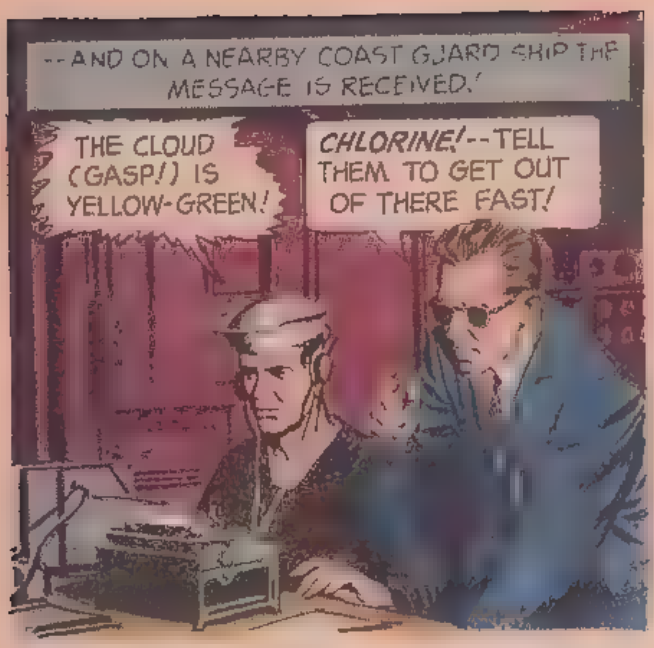

BY CHANGING THE CURRENT IN MY MACHINE, I'LL GET RID OF THOSE SNOOPERS ONCE AND FOR ALL!

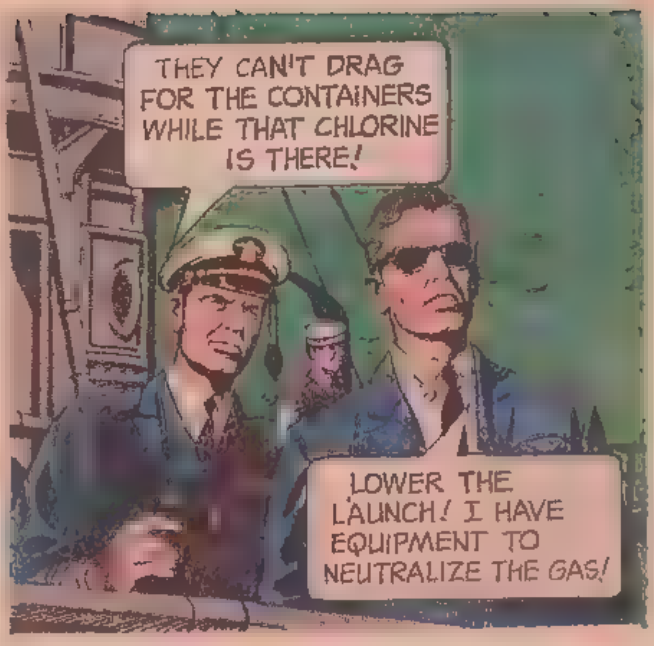

AS THE VOLTAGE CHANGES, THE SALT IN THE SEA WATER IS BROKEN DOWN INTO ITS BASIC ELEMENTS--SODIUM AND DEADLY CHLORINE GAS!

SKIPPER! WHAT'S THAT AHEAD?

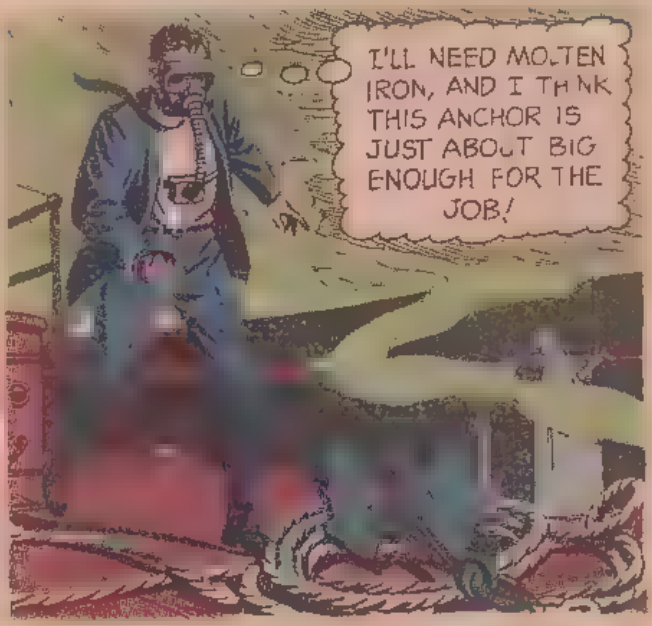
SMELLS ✳ COUGH ✳ ✳COUGH✳ FUNNY!
I-I'M CHOKING!

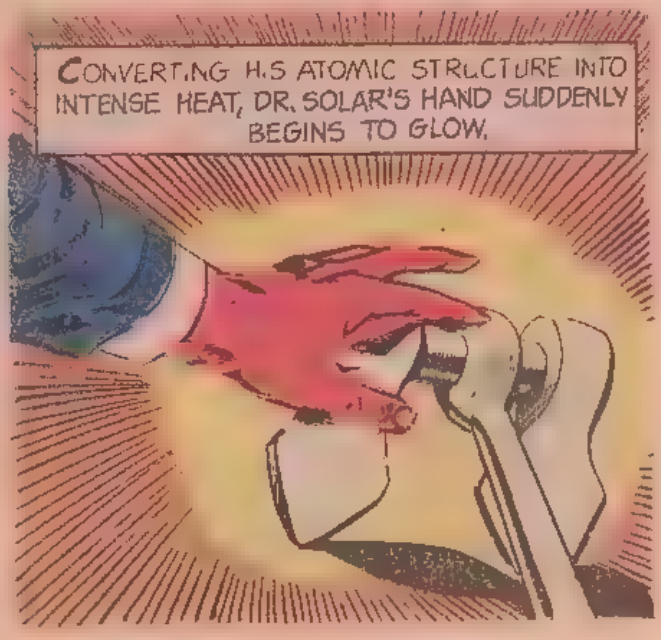
RADIO COAST GUARD ✳COUGH✳ FOR HELP!


--AND ON A NEARBY COAST GUARD SHIP THE MESSAGE IS RECEIVED:
THE CLOUD (GASP!) IS YELLOW-GREEN!
CHLORINE!--TELL THEM TO GET OUT OF THERE FAST!

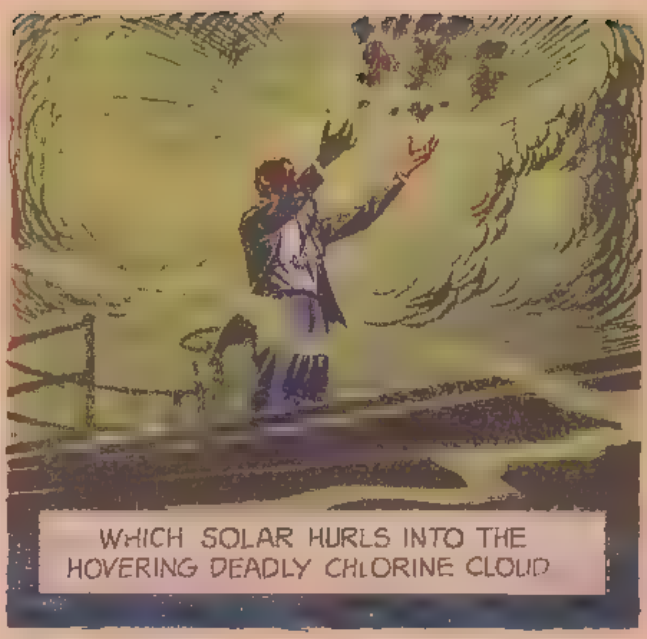

THEY CAN'T DRAG FOR THE CONTAINERS WHILE THAT CHLORINE IS THERE!
LOWER THE LAUNCH! I HAVE EQUIPMENT TO NEUTRALIZE THE GAS!

ALTHOUGH HE DOESN'T NEED THE PROTECTION, SOLAR WEARS A GAS MASK AS HE GUIDES THE LAUNCH TOWARD THE GREEN CLOUD..
NOW, THE QUICKEST WAY TO GET RID OF THAT CLOUD IS TO CONVERT THE CHLORINE INTO HARMLESS IRON CHLORIDE.

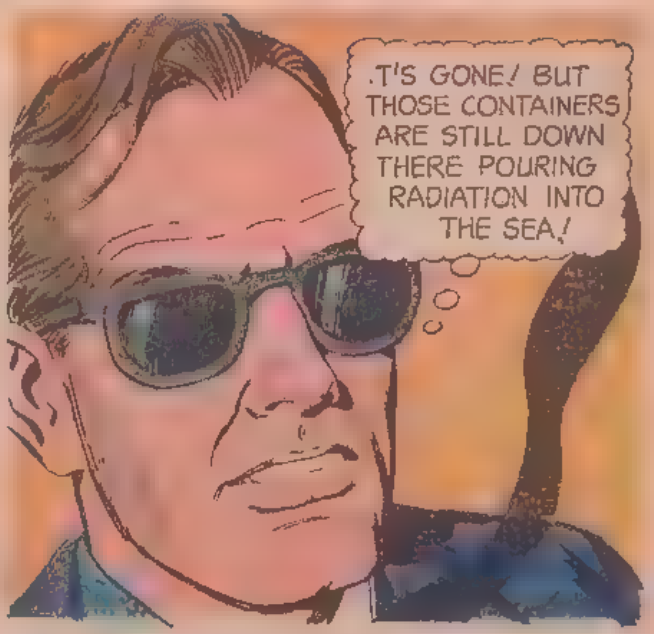

I'LL NEED MOLTEN IRON, AND I THINK THIS ANCHOR IS JUST ABOUT BIG ENOUGH FOR THE JOB!

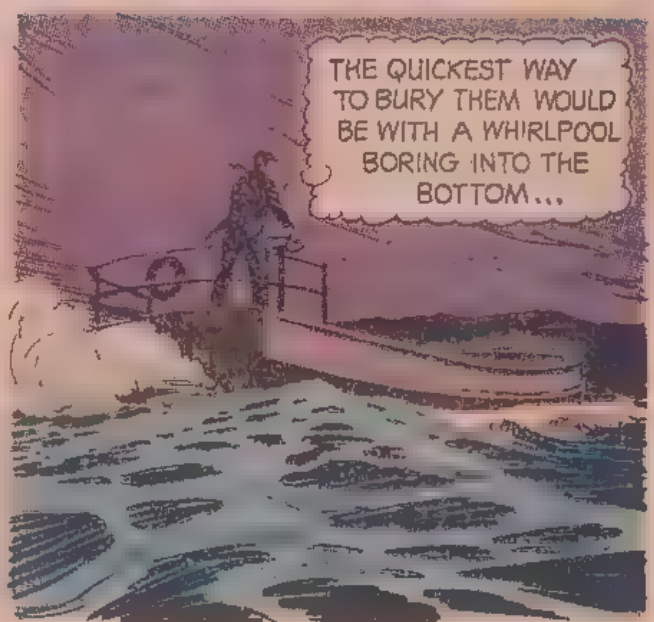

CONVERTING HIS ATOMIC STRUCTURE INTO INTENSE HEAT, DR. SOLAR'S HAND SUDDENLY BEGINS TO GLOW.

QUICKLY, THE ANCHOR IS CONVERTED .NTO A MOLTEN MASS

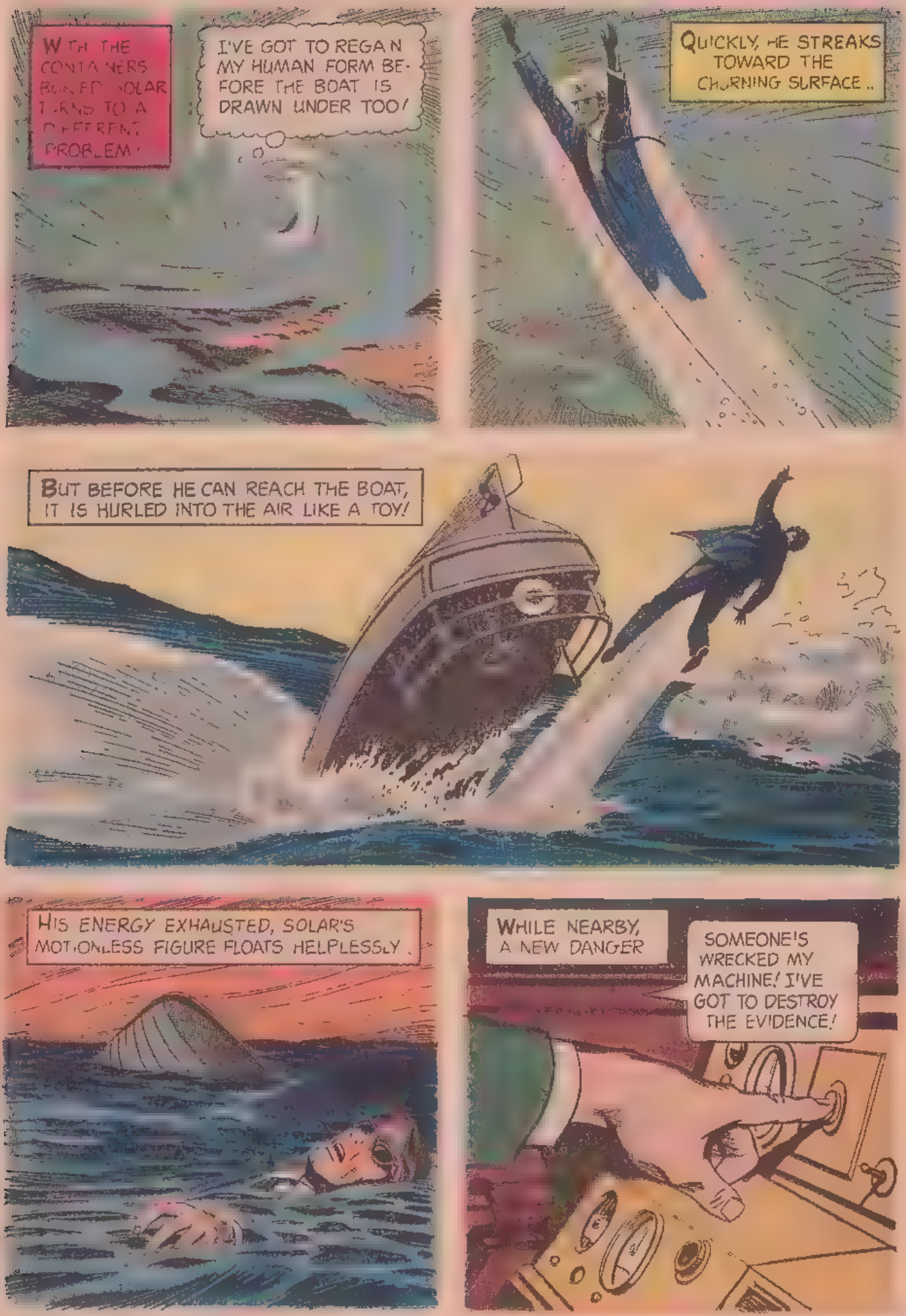

WHICH SOLAR HURLS INTO THE HOVERING DEADLY CHLORINE CLOUD

THE IRON PARTICLE - AND CHLORINE COMBINE! IN MOMENTS, MOST OF THE CLOUD VANISHES IN A CLOUD OF IRON CHLORIDE DUST!

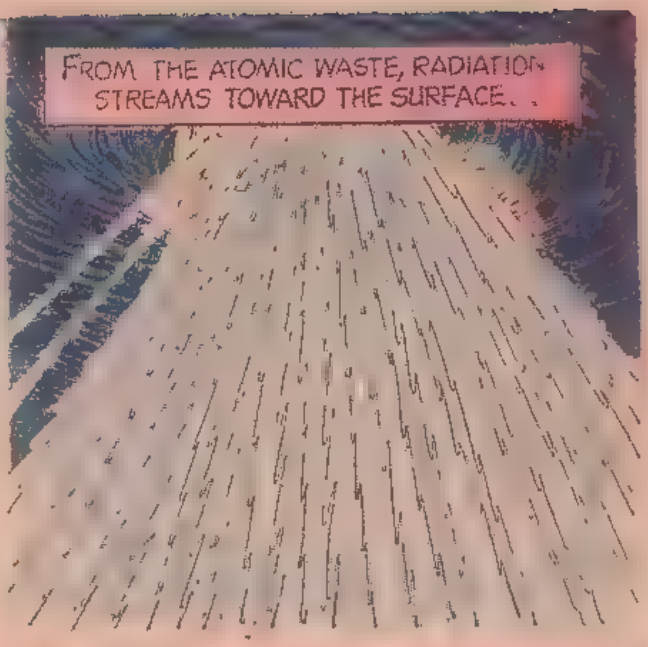

.T'S GONE! BUT THOSE CONTAINERS ARE STILL DOWN THERE POURING RADIATION INTO THE SEA!

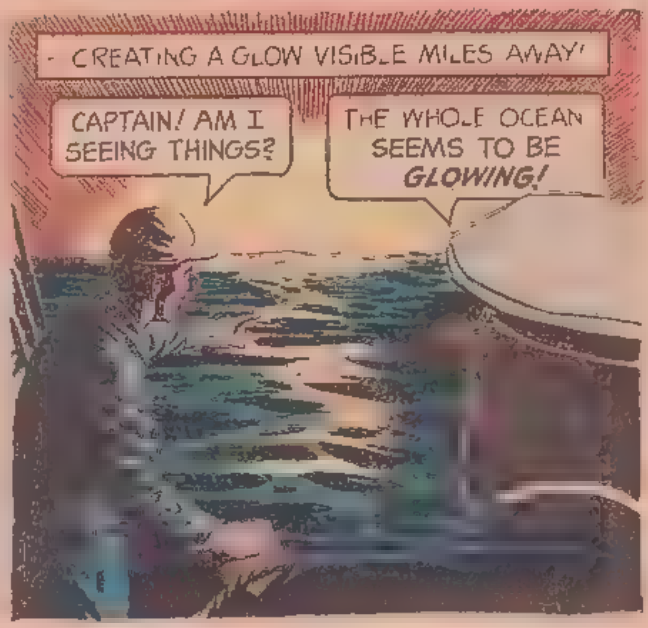

THE QUICKEST WAY TO BURY THEM WOULD BE WITH A WHIRLPOOL BORING INTO THE BOTTOM...

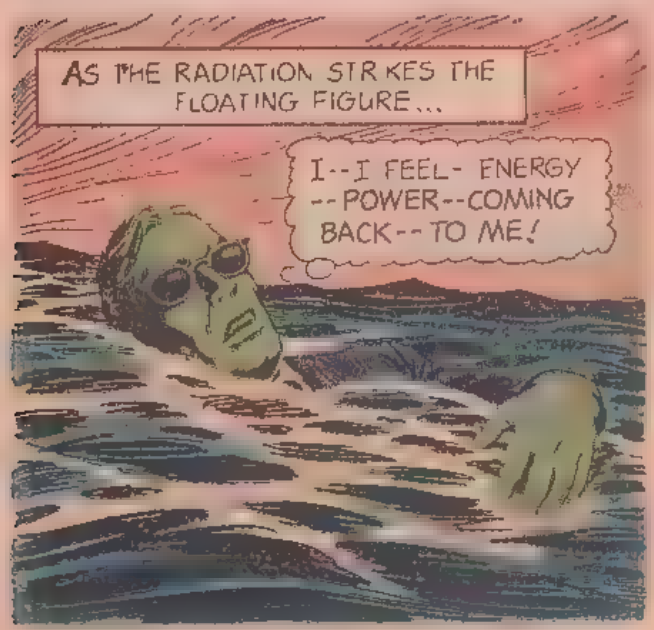
MOVING QUICKLY, SOLAR CONVERTS HIS HUMAN FORM INTO PURE ENERGY, AND PUTS HIS PLANS INTO ACTION!
SLOWLY, THE BOAT BEGINS TO MOVE, GATHERING SPEED AS IT SURGES AHEAD!
WITH THE INCREASING SPEED, THE BOAT FOLLOWS THE EDGE OF AN EVER-WIDENING WHIRLPOOL...
...CREATED BY DR. SOLAR AS HE USES HIS ENERGY TO SPIN THE WATER AT A FANTASTIC SPEED!
FASTER AND FASTER THE CHURNING WATER TURNS UNTIL, LIKE THE BIT OF A DRILL, IT BURROWS THE CONTAINERS INTO THE SOFT SEA MUD!


WITH THE CONTAINERS BLOWN FROM SOLAR TURNS TO A DIFFERENT PROBLEM!
I'VE GOT TO REGAIN MY HUMAN FORM BEFORE THE BOAT IS DRAWN UNDER TOO!
QUICKLY, HE STREAKS TOWARD THE CHURNING SURFACE..
BUT BEFORE HE CAN REACH THE BOAT, IT IS HURLED INTO THE AIR LIKE A TOY!
HIS ENERGY EXHAUSTED, SOLAR'S MOTIONLESS FIGURE FLOATS HELPLESSLY.
WHILE NEARBY, A NEW DANGER
SOMEONE'S WRECKED MY MACHINE! I'VE GOT TO DESTROY THE EVIDENCE!

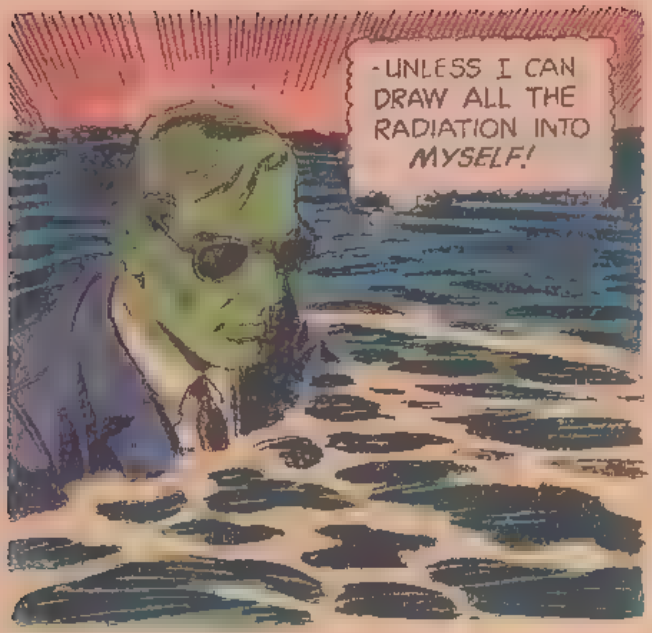
AND, WITH THE TOUCH OF A BUTTON, THE MUDDY SEA BOTTOM ROCKS AS THE CONTAINERS ARE SHATTERED BY A MIGHTY EXPLOSION!
BWOOM!


FROM THE ATOMIC WASTE, RADIATION STREAMS TOWARD THE SURFACE...

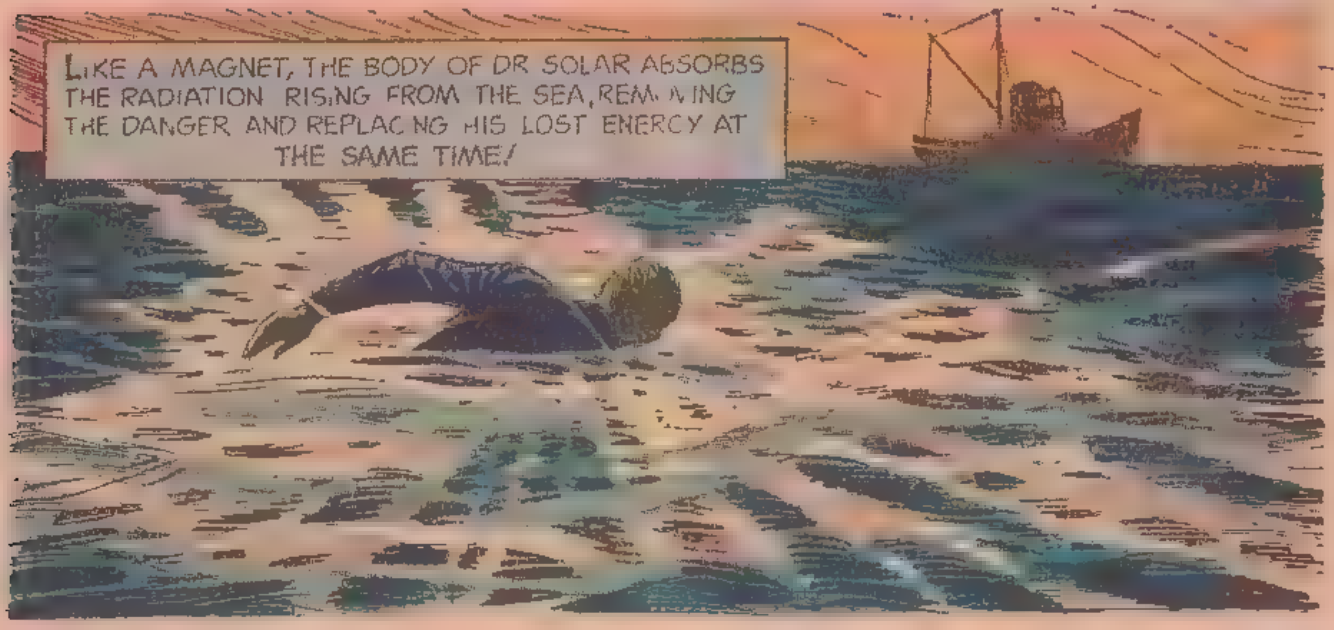

- CREATING A GLOW VISIBLE MILES AWAY!
CAPTAIN! AM I SEEING THINGS?
THE WHOLE OCEAN SEEMS TO BE GLOWING!

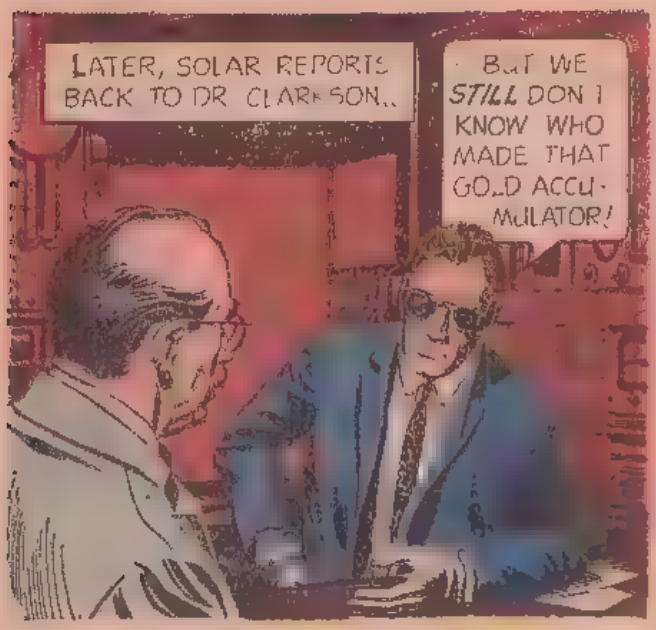

AS THE RADIATION STRIKES THE FLOATING FIGURE...
I--I FEEL- ENERGY --POWER--COMING BACK--TO ME!

THAT EXPLOSION MUST HAVE RELEASED THE RADIATION FROM UNDER THE SEA FLOOR! IT'S REVIVING ME, BUT NOW THE SEA WILL BE POISONED!


-UNLESS I CAN DRAW ALL THE RADIATION INTO *MYSELF!*

MAYBE THAT SCIENTIST CAN EXPLAIN IT WHEN HE COMES BACK! IN ALL MY DAYS AT SEA, I NEVER SAW ANYTHING LIKE *THAT!*


LIKE A MAGNET, THE BODY OF DR SOLAR ABSORBS THE RADIATION RISING FROM THE SEA, REMOVING THE DANGER AND REPLACING HIS LOST ENERGY AT THE SAME TIME!


LATER, SOLAR REPORTS BACK TO DR CLARKSON..
BUT WE *STILL* DON'T KNOW WHO MADE THAT GOLD ACCUMULATOR!

THIS GOLD DUST WAS FOUND IN AN ABANDONED SEAPLANE NOT FAR FROM THE AREA. THE OWNER HAD VANISHED!
--THEN HE MAY TRY IT AGAIN! WE'LL ALWAYS BE IN DANGER OF HAVING THE SEA TURNED INTO A DEATH TRAP UNLESS WE CAN FIND THAT MAN!

Although it's impossible to answer every letter, we welcome your comments, questions and suggestions. Address mail to:

DR. SOLAR
K.K. PUBLICATIONS, INC.
POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK

ALBANY, GEORGIA:
. . . I'm studying to be an artist and to my knowledge, DR. SOLAR is the best illustrated magazine I've read. Who is your artist?
. . . I also like the "Pin Up" on the back.
JENNY ARN

The artist who pencils and inks DR. SOLAR is Bob Fujitani, whom we consider to be one of the finest artists in the field. The Pin Up is a regular feature of all GOLD KEY Comics which will continue as long as readers like it.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA:
In the first issue of DR. SOLAR . . . when Gail Sanders was talking to Solar through the glass, couldn't she see that his skin was green?
RANDY JONES

The glass in Solar's protective window is actually two pieces of glass with a layer of oil sandwiched between them. The oil gives some of its color to anything seen through it, and Gail would not have been aware of Solar's green skin.

ORLEANS, NEBRASKA:
You have said: "He streaks with the speed of light to the rim of the seething volcano." In the first second he would have gone 175,000 miles into space. Even if he could have bent his energy into a curving path around the globe, it would have taken him nearly a minute to slow up!
DAN BENNETT

Going at the speed of light, Solar would have had trouble stopping as he did in THE NIGHT OF THE VOLCANO. But in this case, Solar was traveling AS light, which can be stopped by any solid object like the side of the mountain. Had he been traveling as matter, of course, this would not have been possible.

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA:
. . . Just exactly what are some of his (Solar's) other powers? . . . Can he really change himself into pure energy? . . . What did Dr. Clarkson mean when he said: "Apparently the radioactive elements in your body have a short half-life, but you can restore your lost energy."?
MARY SAUSER

Even Solar himself doesn't know the full range of his powers. When he survived exposure to an overdose of atomic radiation, he became a living isotope and has been able to convert the matter of his body into energy. This energy can be directed in any way he chooses and his choice depends entirely on the job that has to be done. Heat, for instance, is the energy form he used to help him cap a volcano. When an invisible man endangered the President, Solar tried to trap him by creating intense cold. In this case, he converted his matter to energy, then back to a different form of matter, liquid oxygen. Because his body is radioactive, Solar uses up energy at a terrific rate. Unless it were possible to restore that energy, he would die. This worried Dr. Clarkson at first until he discovered that Solar could restore his lost energy through exposure to more radio activity.

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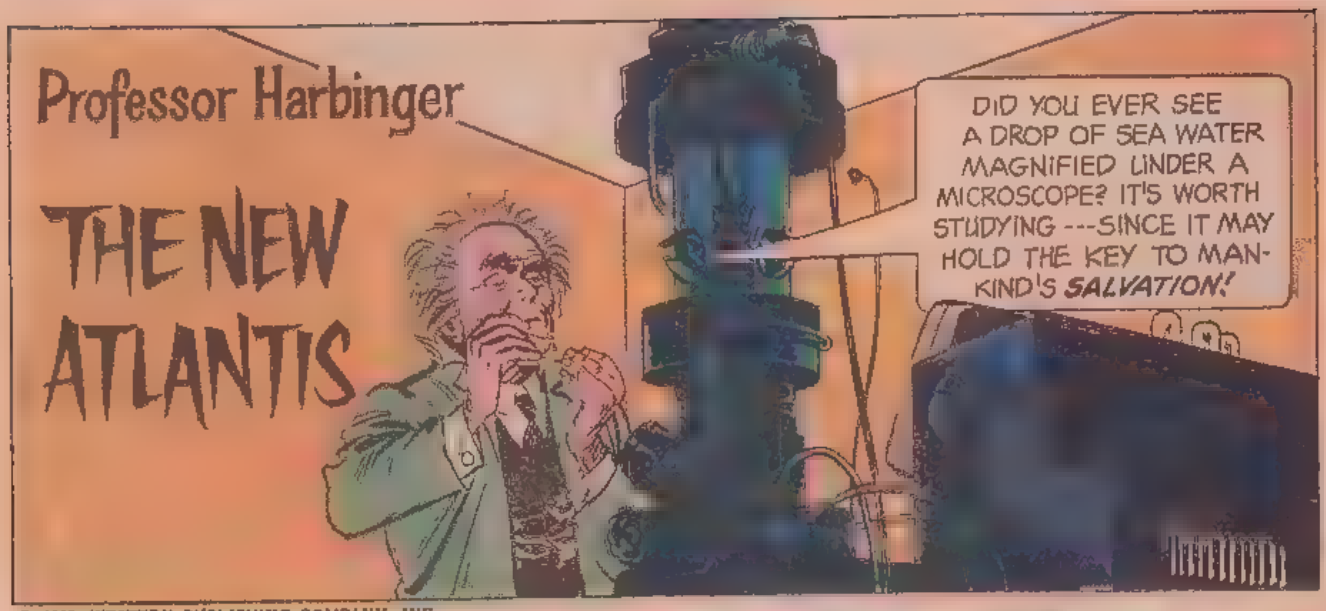
Professor Harbinger

THE NEW ATLANTIS


DID YOU EVER SEE A DROP OF SEA WATER MAGNIFIED UNDER A MICROSCOPE? IT'S WORTH STUDYING ---SINCE IT MAY HOLD THE KEY TO MANKIND'S SALVATION!

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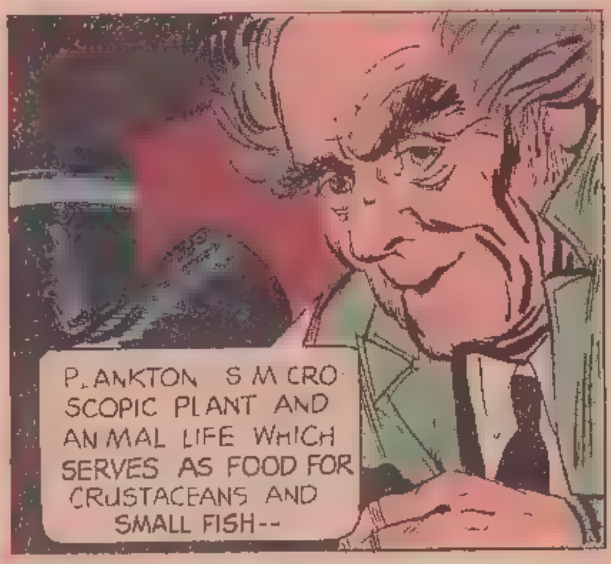
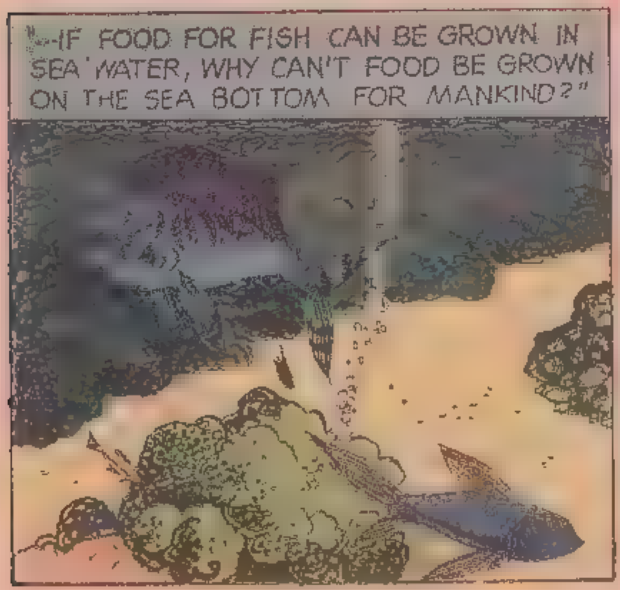
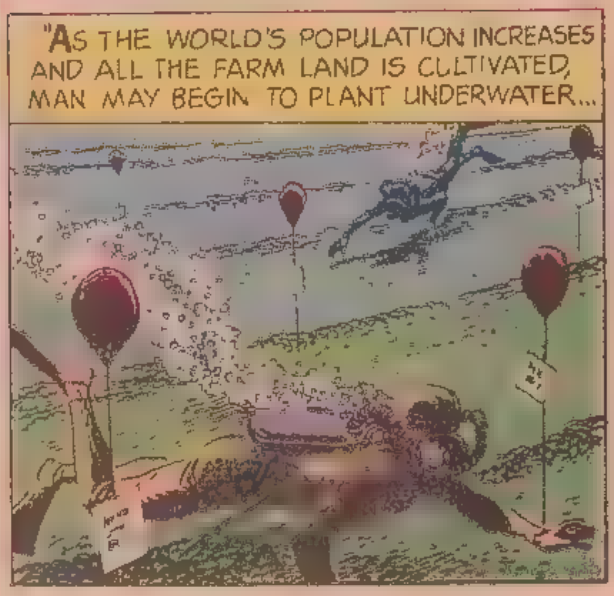


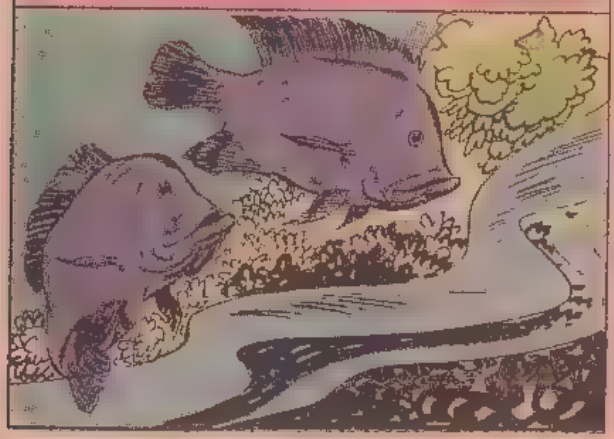




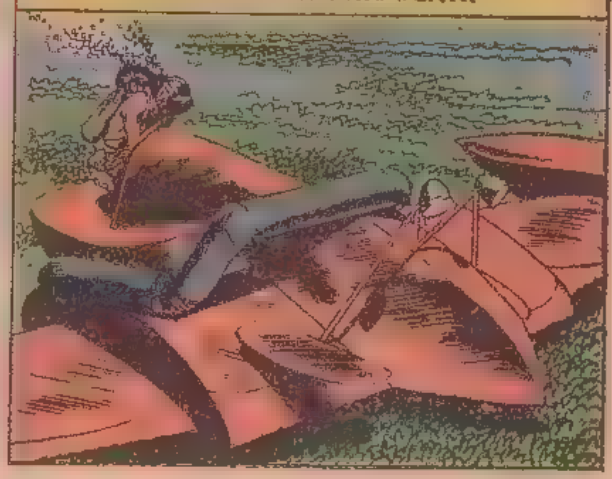
"UNDERWATER HARVESTERS WOULD GATHER STRANGE NEW CROPS FROM MANY FATHOMS BENEATH THE SURFACE...

"SPECIAL PROCESSING WOULD BE REQUIRED TO TAKE THE [illegible] OUT OF THE NEW [illegible] THEY WOULD FIND THEIR WAY ONTO THE TABLE OF THE BEST RESTAURANTS...

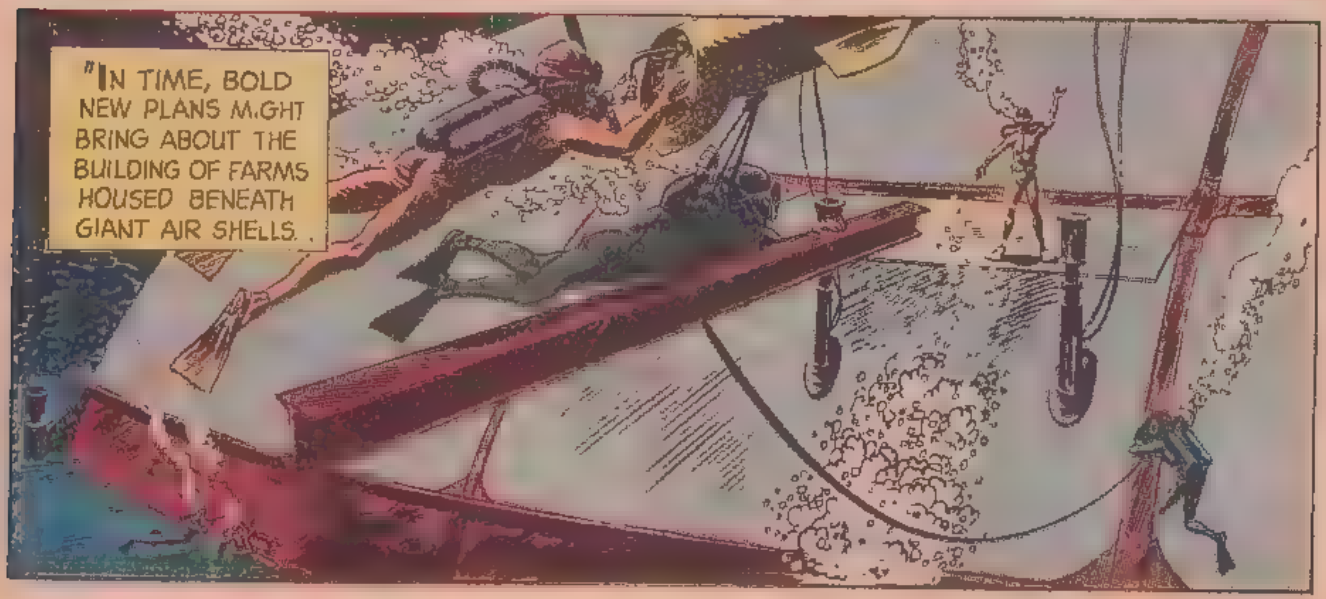
"AS THE CROPS GROW, FISH AND SEA CURRENTS, LIKE BIRDS AND WIND CURRENTS ABOVE, COULD POLLINATE THE WEIRD CROPS...



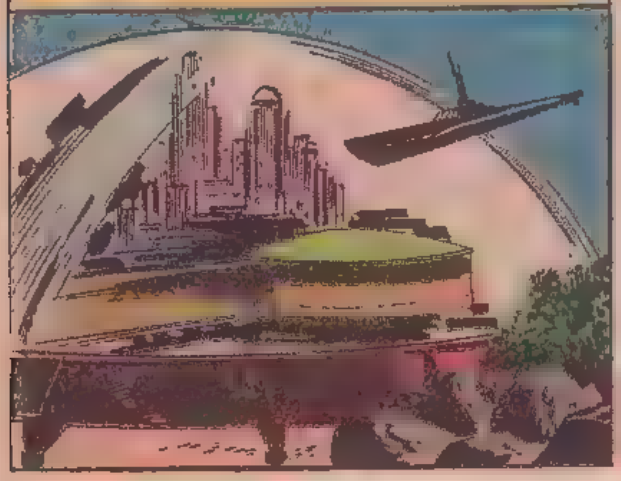
"FARM MACHINERY COULD BE ADAPTED TO WORK UNDERWATER...



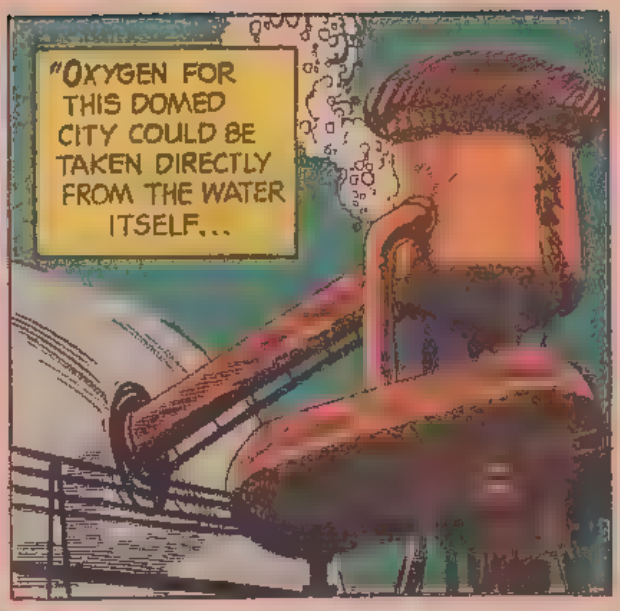
"IN TIME, BOLD NEW PLANS MIGHT BRING ABOUT THE BUILDING OF FARMS HOUSED BENEATH GIANT AIR SHELLS..



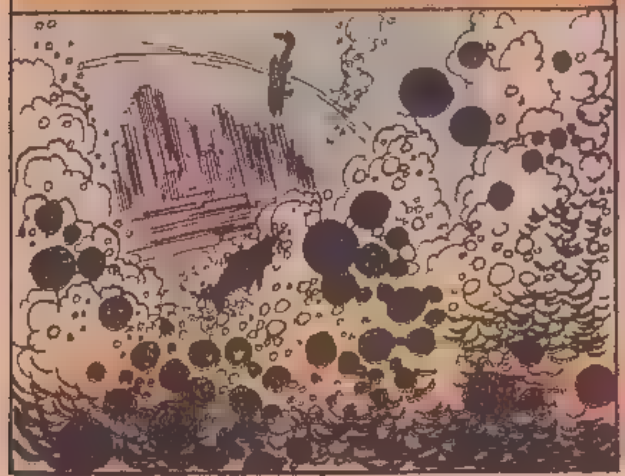
"LIKE THE LEGENDARY CITY OF ANCIENT ATLANTIS THAT SUPPOSEDLY EXISTS BELOW THE SEA, A MODERN CITY WOULD RISE...



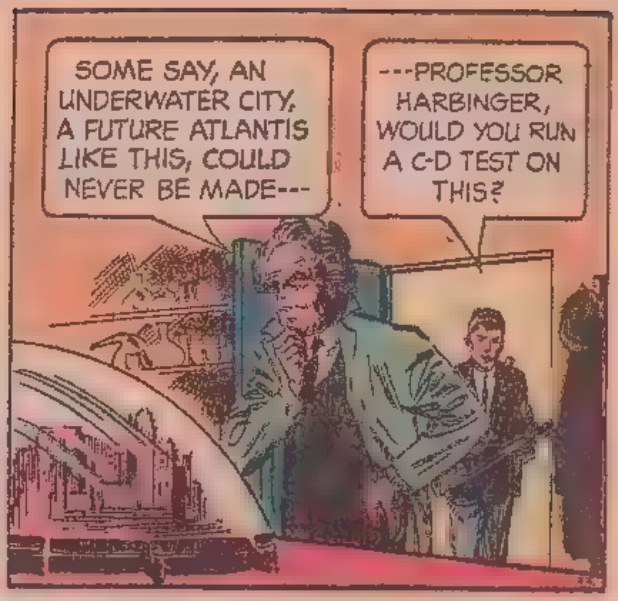
"OXYGEN FOR THIS DOMED CITY COULD BE TAKEN DIRECTLY FROM THE WATER ITSELF...

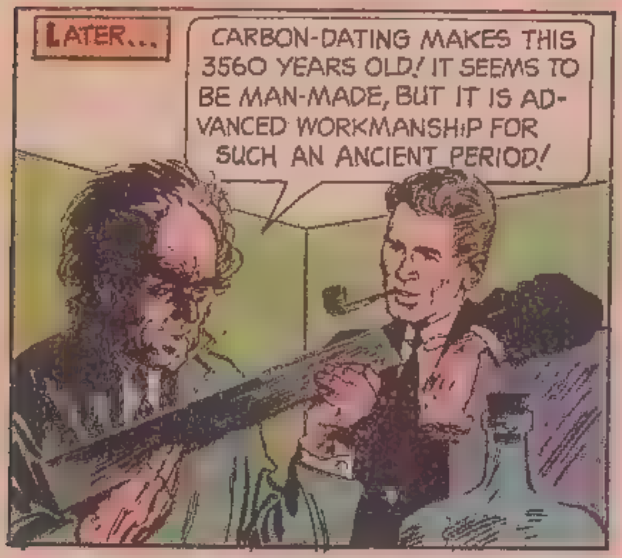


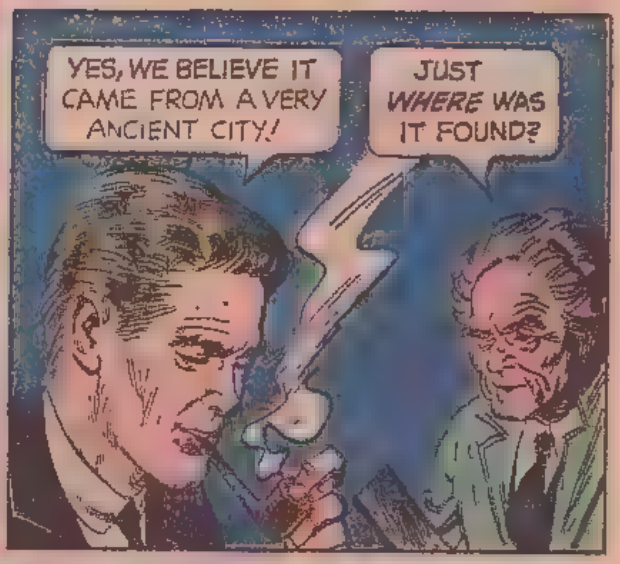
"DANGER WOULD BE PRESENT FROM OCEANIC EARTHQUAKES WHICH SHAKE AND STIR THE SEA BOTTOM...



"BUT USING EMERGENCY GEAR, THE SEA-FARMERS COULD ESCAPE!"


SOME SAY, AN UNDERWATER CITY, A FUTURE ATLANTIS LIKE THIS, COULD NEVER BE MADE---
---PROFESSOR HARBINGER, WOULD YOU RUN A C-D TEST ON THIS?


LATER...
CARBON-DATING MAKES THIS 3560 YEARS OLD! IT SEEMS TO BE MAN-MADE, BUT IT IS ADVANCED WORKMANSHIP FOR SUCH AN ANCIENT PERIOD!

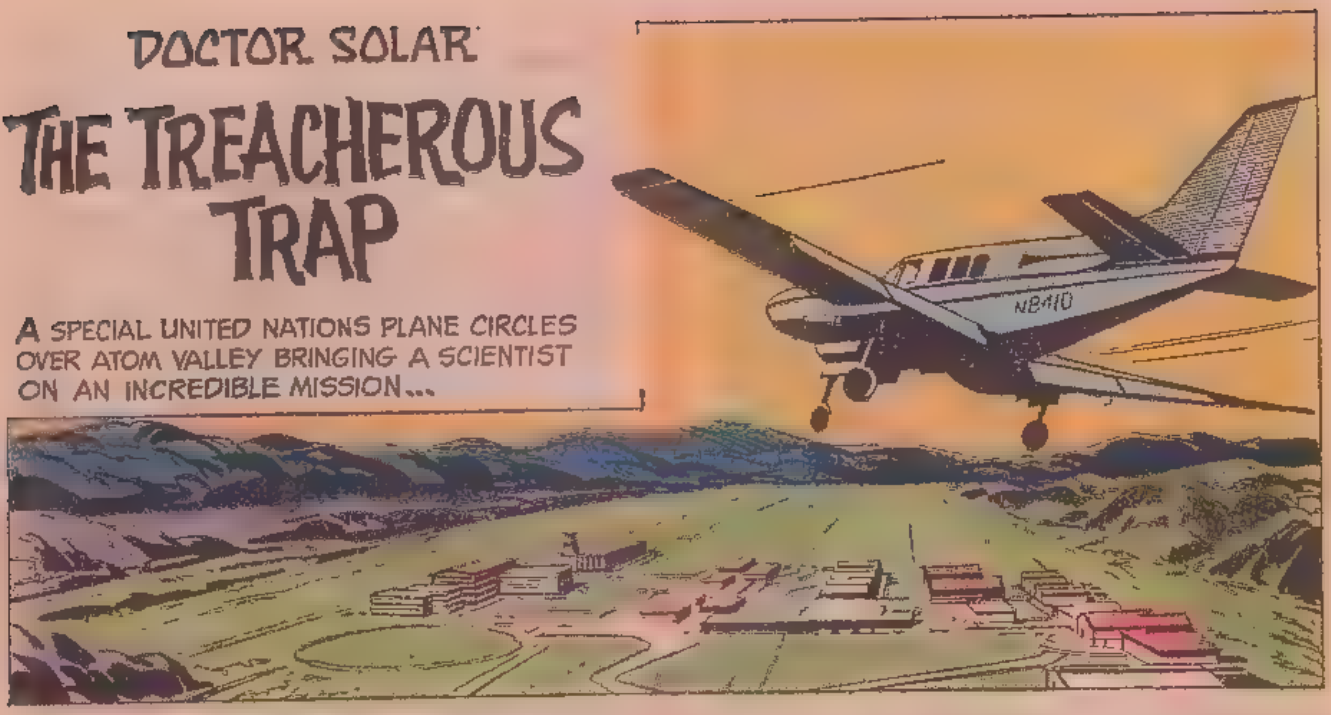

YES, WE BELIEVE IT CAME FROM A VERY ANCIENT CITY!
JUST *WHERE* WAS IT FOUND?

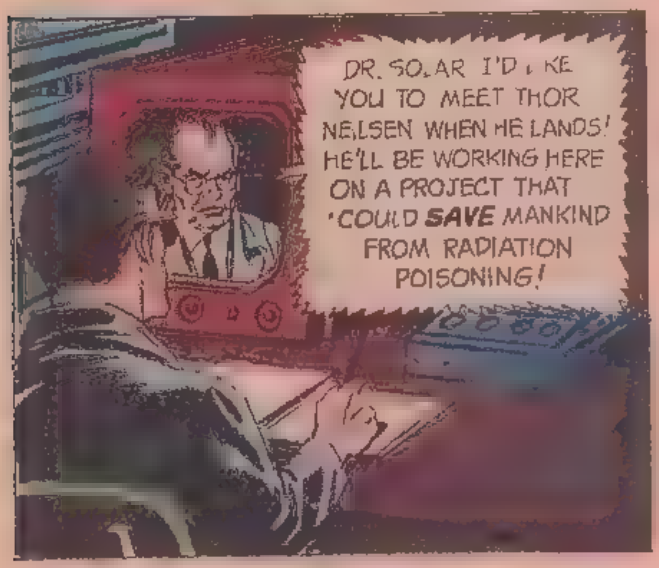
IT WAS FOUND ON THE OCEAN FLOOR ABOUT ---HERE!
BUT THAT IS JUST WHERE ANCIENT LEGEND USUALLY LOCATES THE LOST CITY OF *ATLANTIS!*

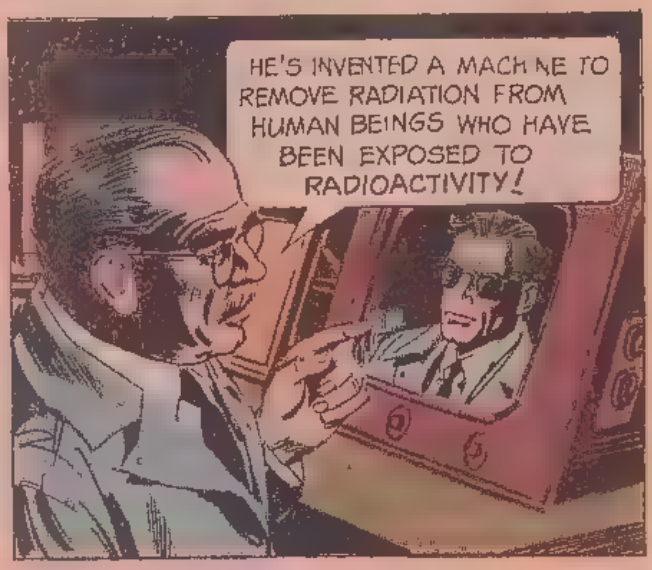
DOCTOR SOLAR

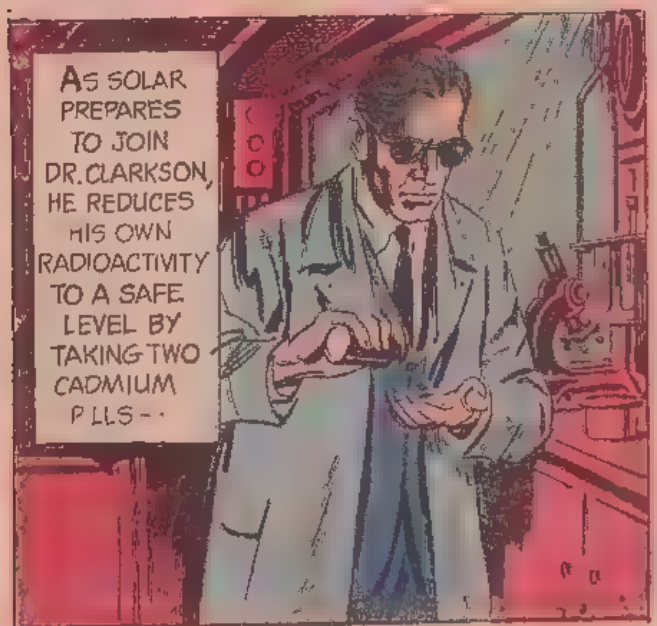
THE TREACHEROUS TRAP

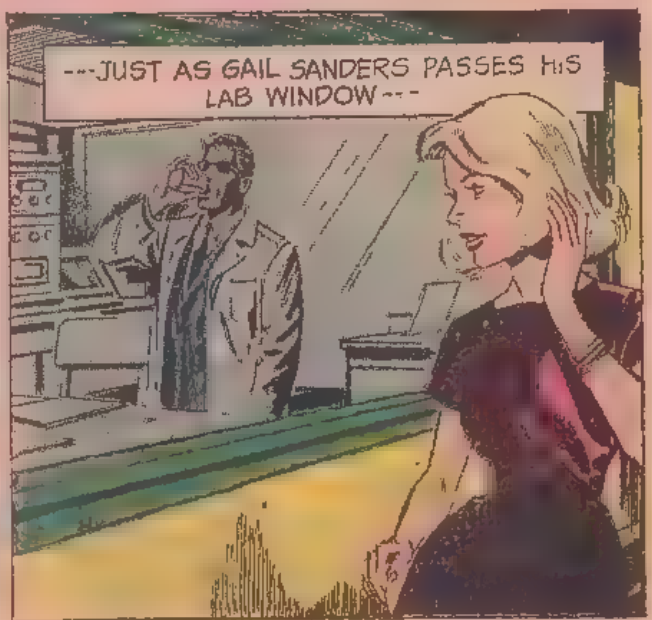
A SPECIAL UNITED NATIONS PLANE CIRCLES OVER ATOM VALLEY BRINGING A SCIENTIST ON AN INCREDIBLE MISSION...



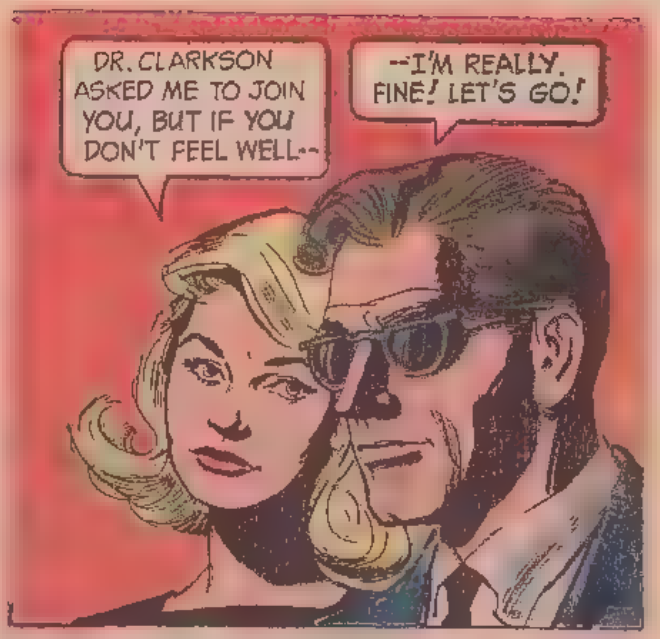

DR. SOLAR I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET THOR NELSEN WHEN HE LANDS! HE'LL BE WORKING HERE ON A PROJECT THAT COULD **SAVE** MANKIND FROM RADIATION POISONING!

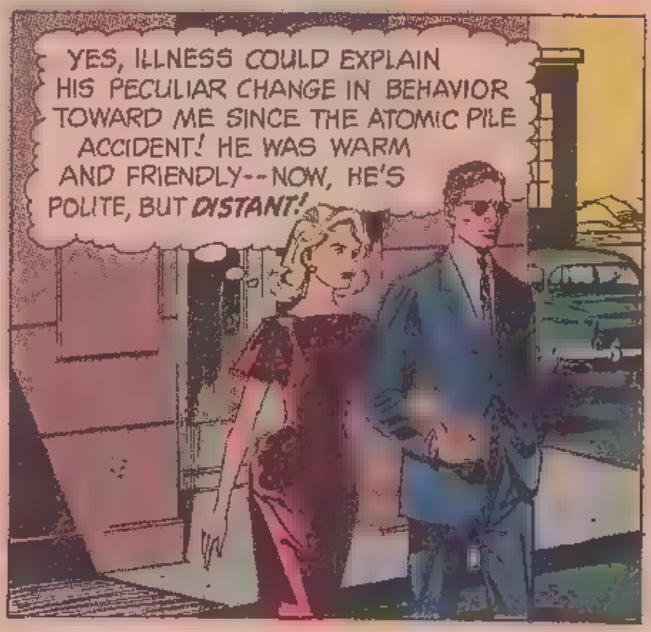


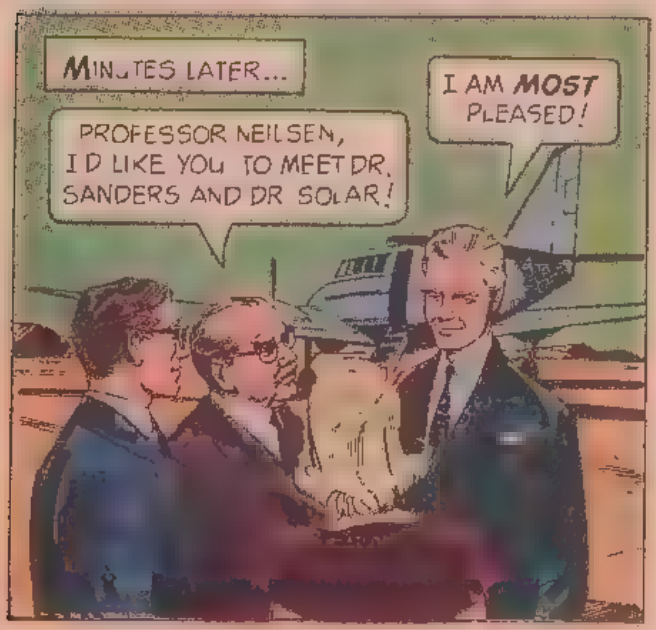


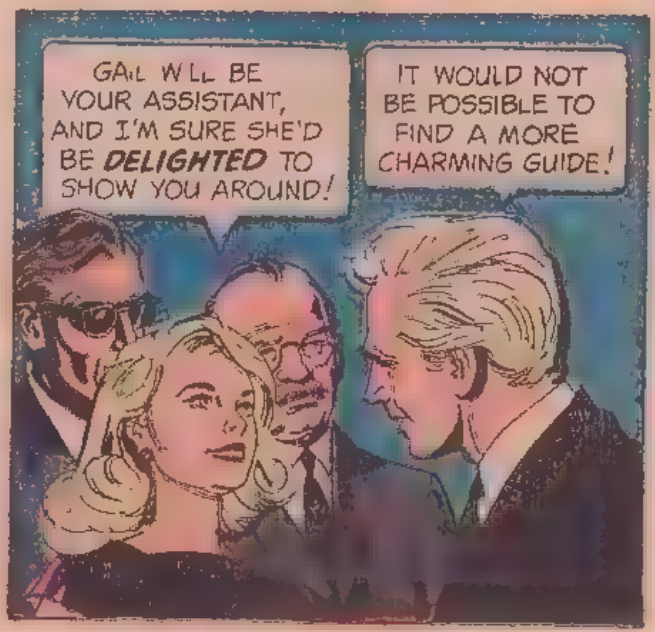


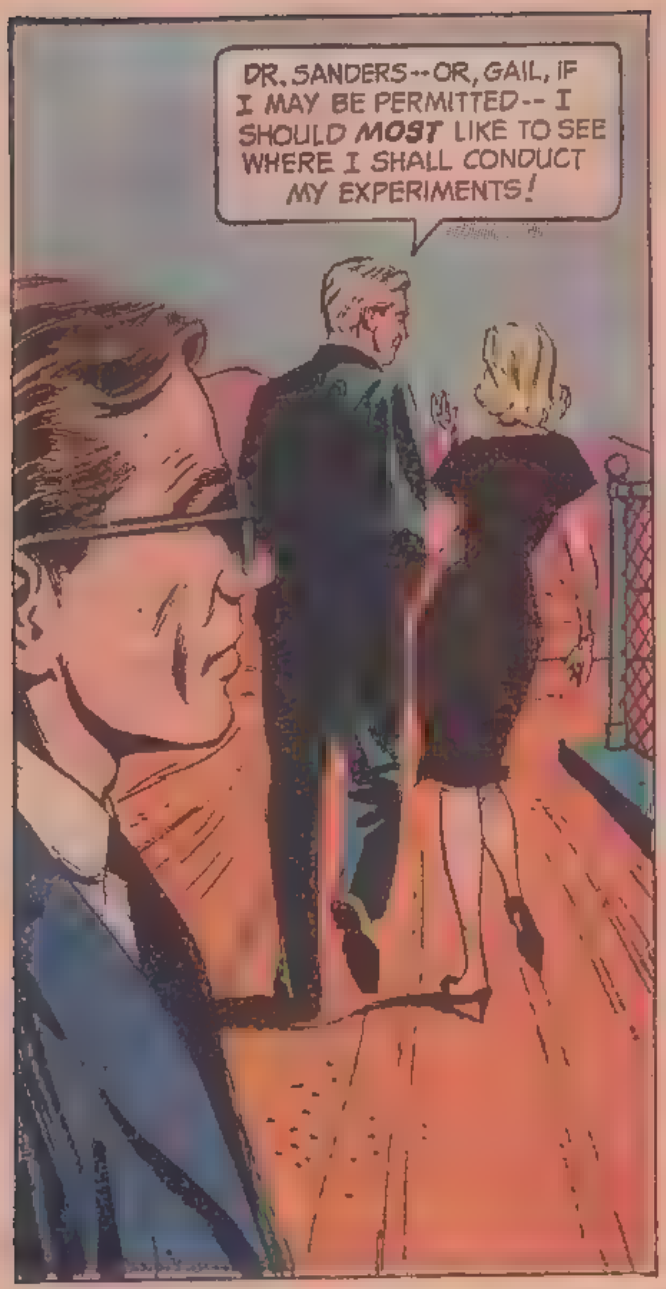
--AND AS SOLAR LEAVES HIS LAB, HE FINDS GAIL WAITING FOR HIM--
I COULDN'T HELP NOTICING THAT YOU WERE TAKING PILLS! ARE YOU FEELING ALL RIGHT?
YES, GAIL! THANKS FOR YOUR CONCERN, BUT I'M FINE!

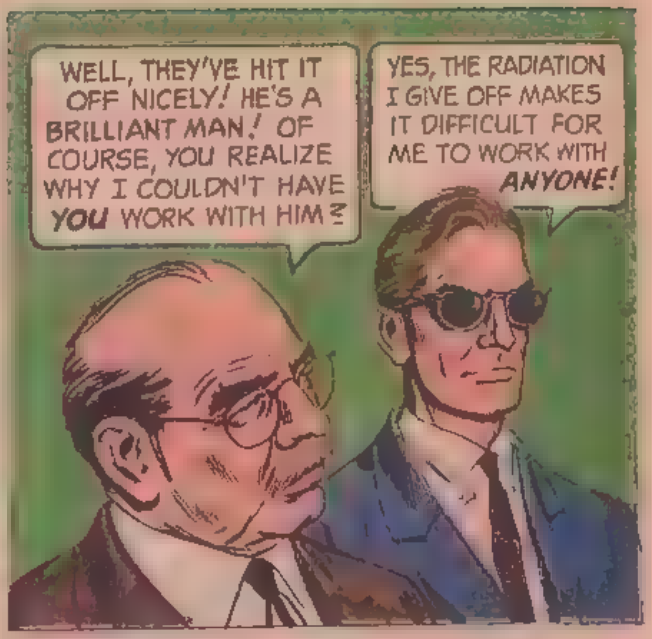

DR. CLARKSON ASKED ME TO JOIN YOU, BUT IF YOU DON'T FEEL WELL--
--I'M REALLY. FINE! LET'S GO!

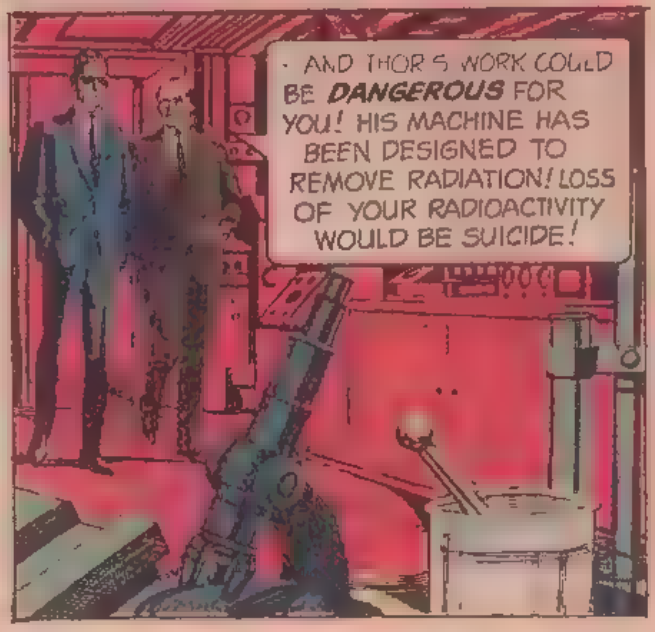

YES, ILLNESS COULD EXPLAIN HIS PECULIAR CHANGE IN BEHAVIOR TOWARD ME SINCE THE ATOMIC PILE ACCIDENT! HE WAS WARM AND FRIENDLY--NOW, HE'S POLITE, BUT DISTANT!

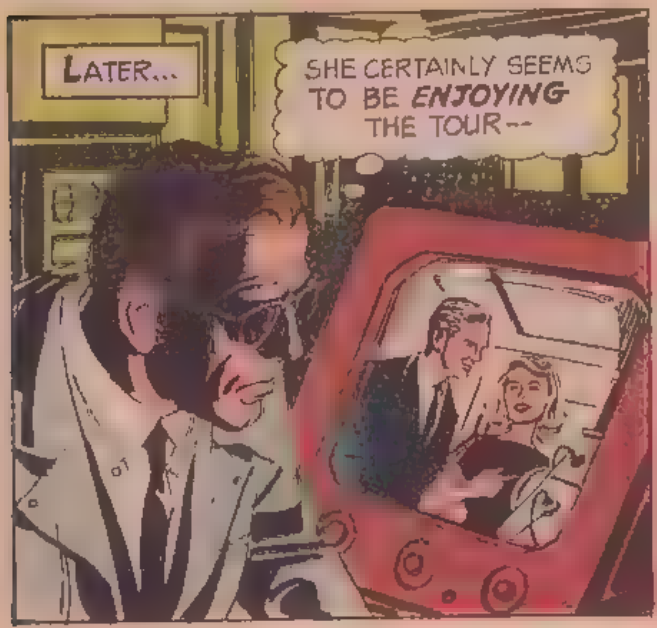

MINUTES LATER...
PROFESSOR NEILSEN, I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET DR. SANDERS AND DR SOLAR!
I AM MOST PLEASED!

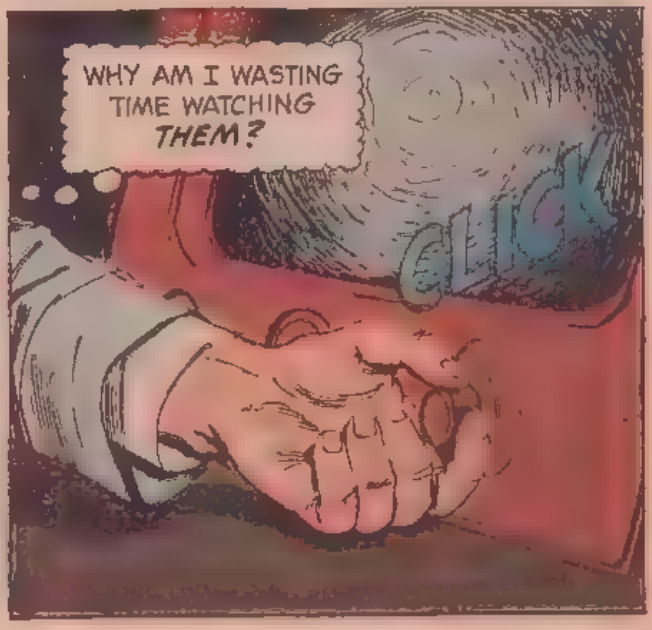

GAIL WILL BE YOUR ASSISTANT, AND I'M SURE SHE'D BE DELIGHTED TO SHOW YOU AROUND!
IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO FIND A MORE CHARMING GUIDE!


DR. SANDERS--OR, GAIL, IF I MAY BE PERMITTED-- I SHOULD MOST LIKE TO SEE WHERE I SHALL CONDUCT MY EXPERIMENTS!

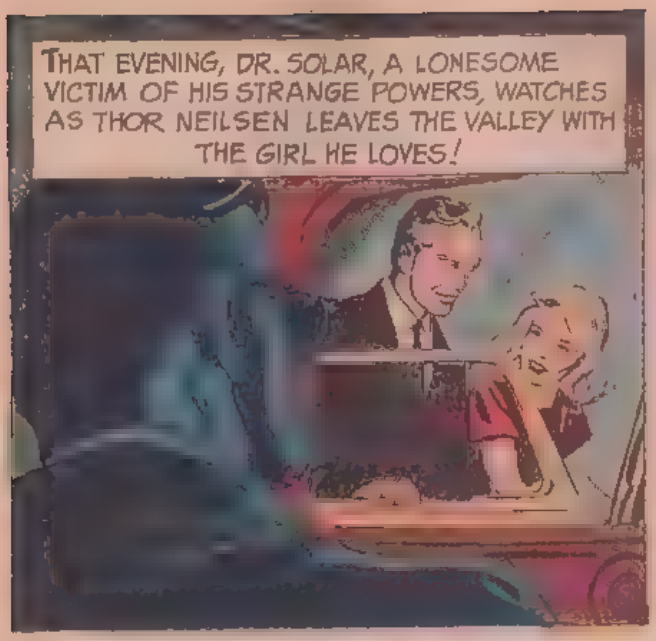

WELL, THEY'VE HIT IT OFF NICELY! HE'S A BRILLIANT MAN! OF COURSE, YOU REALIZE WHY I COULDN'T HAVE YOU WORK WITH HIM?
YES, THE RADIATION I GIVE OFF MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR ME TO WORK WITH ANYONE!

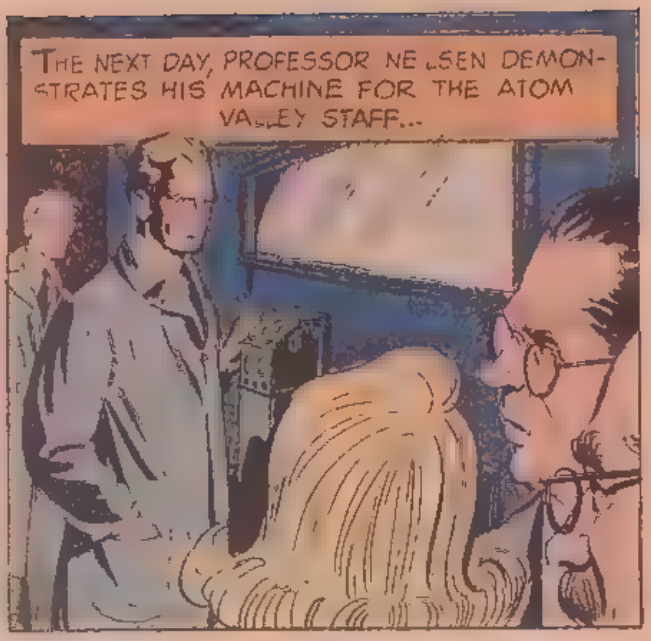

AND THOR'S WORK COULD BE DANGEROUS FOR YOU! HIS MACHINE HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO REMOVE RADIATION! LOSS OF YOUR RADIOACTIVITY WOULD BE SUICIDE!


LATER...
SHE CERTAINLY SEEMS TO BE ENJOYING THE TOUR--

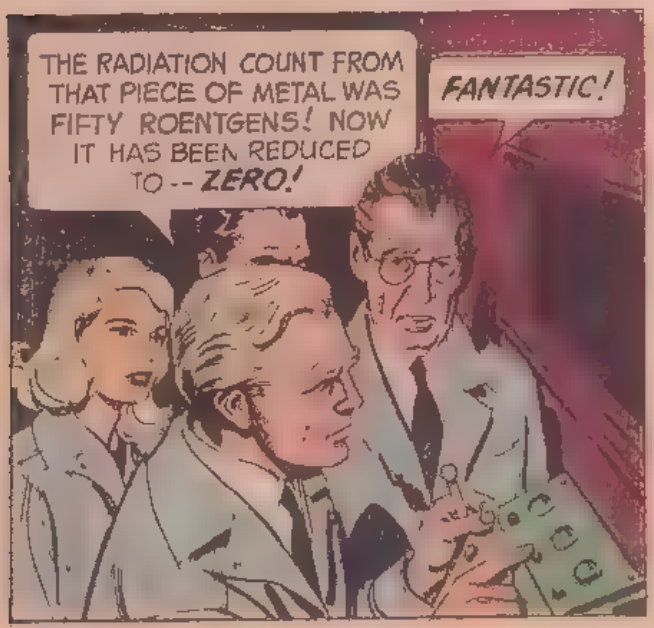

WHY AM I WASTING TIME WATCHING THEM?
CLICK

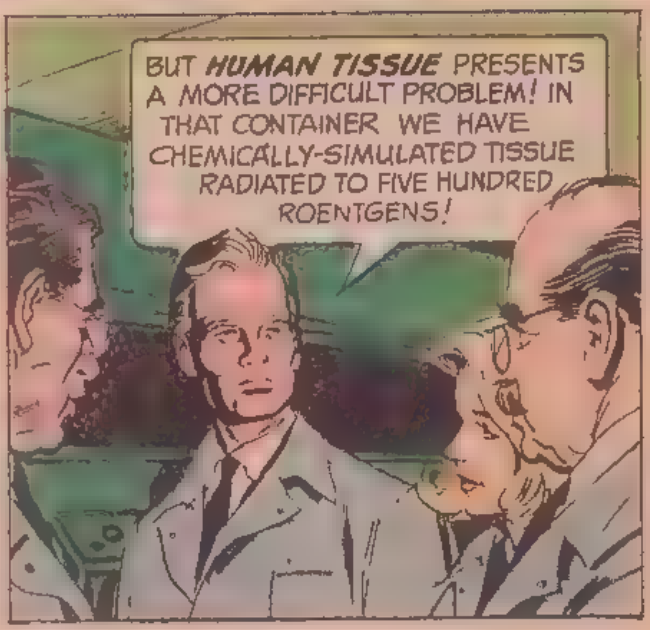
LATER SOLAR SHOWS PROFESSOR NEILSEN THE NEW DE-RADIATION CHAMBER--
YOUR EQUIPMENT SHOULD WORK WELL IN THIS ROOM!-- IT'S BEEN DESIGNED TO SEAL IN ALL RADIATION! EVEN THAT OBSERVATION WINDOW CAN BE SCREENED BY A LEAD SHIELD!
WHEN YOU TURN THIS KEY, AIR COMPRESSION LOCKS AND SEALS THE DOOR TO PREVENT ANY LEAKAGE!
I MUST THANK DR. CLARKSON! HE COULD NOT HAVE GIVEN ME A MORE BRILLIANT-- OR CHARMING HELPER THAN GAIL! BUT YOU MUST REALIZE THAT YOURSELF!
GAIL, YOU'VE SHOWN ME THE PLANT, NOW COULD YOU SHOW ME WHERE I MIGHT TAKE YOU TO DINNER?
THIS EVENING? LET ME THINK--AM I FREE?
WHY, YES, THOR! I THINK THAT SOUNDS LIKE FUN!

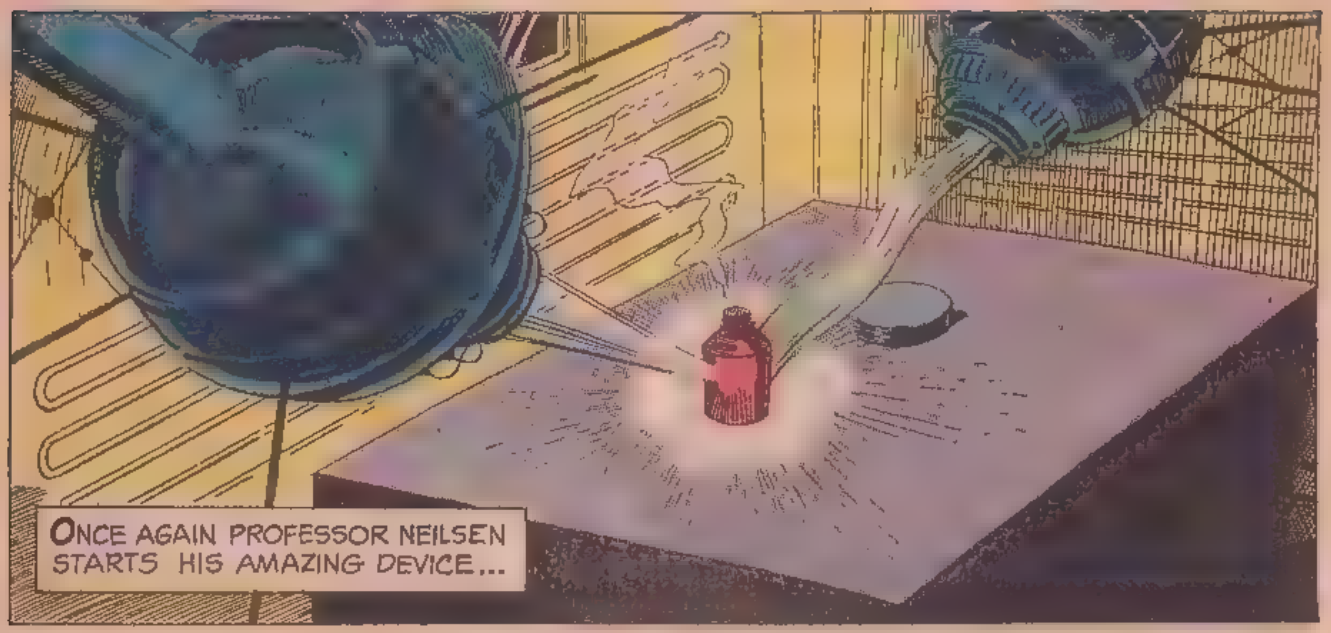

THAT EVENING, DR. SOLAR, A LONESOME VICTIM OF HIS STRANGE POWERS, WATCHES AS THOR NEILSEN LEAVES THE VALLEY WITH THE GIL HE LOVES!

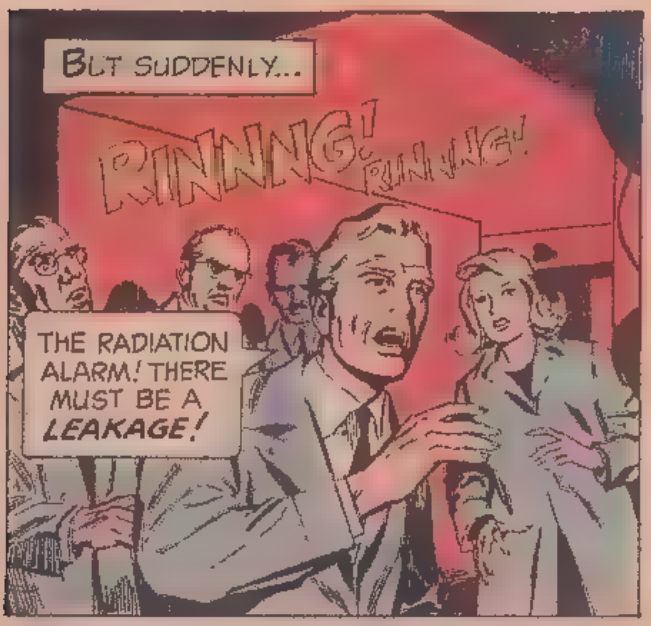

THE NEXT DAY, PROFESSOR NE LSEN DEMONSTRATES HIS MACHINE FOR THE ATOM VALLEY STAFF...

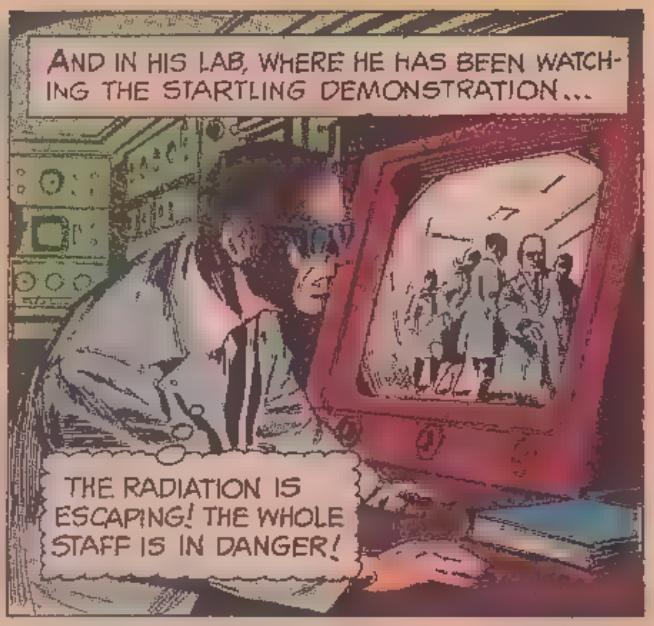
AS THE MAGNETO BEAM STRIKES THE RADIATED OBJECT, RADIATION IS DRAWN OUT LIKE IRON FILINGS TO A MAGNET!

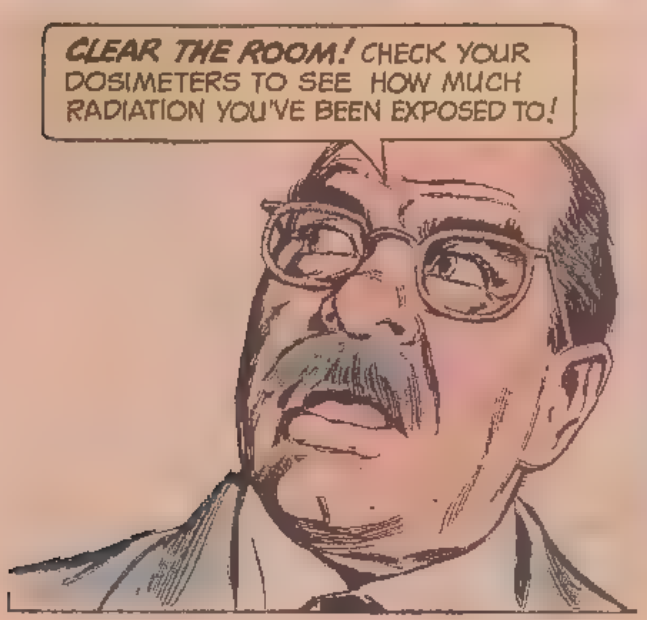

THE RADIATION COUNT FROM THAT PIECE OF METAL WAS FIFTY ROENTGENS! NOW IT HAS BEEN REDUCED TO -- ZERO!
FANTASTIC!

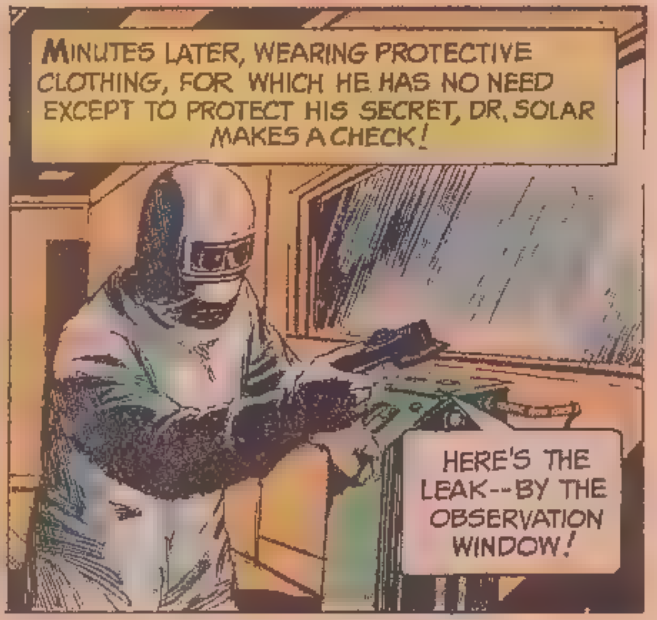

BUT HUMAN TISSUE PRESENTS A MORE DIFFICULT PROBLEM! IN THAT CONTAINER WE HAVE CHEMICALLY-SIMULATED TISSUE RADIATED TO FIVE HUNDRED ROENTGENS!


ONCE AGAIN PROFESSOR NEILSEN STARTS HIS AMAZING DEVICE...

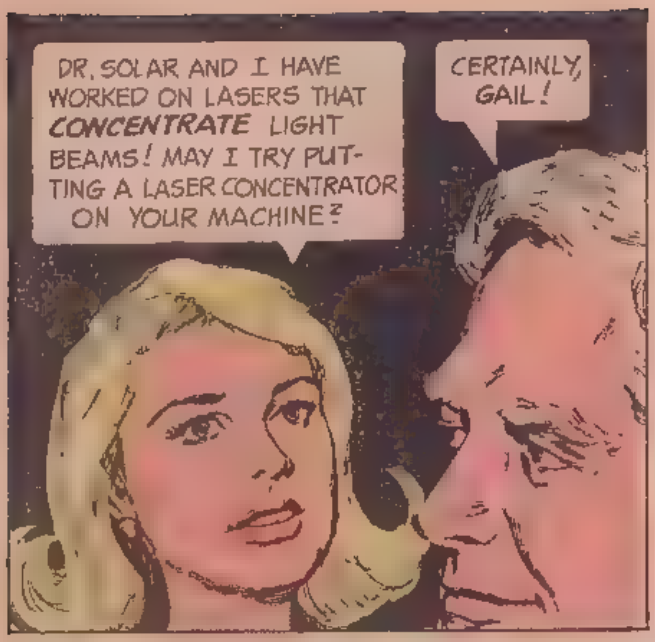

BUT SUDDENLY...
RINNG! RINNG!
THE RADIATION ALARM! THERE MUST BE A LEAKAGE!

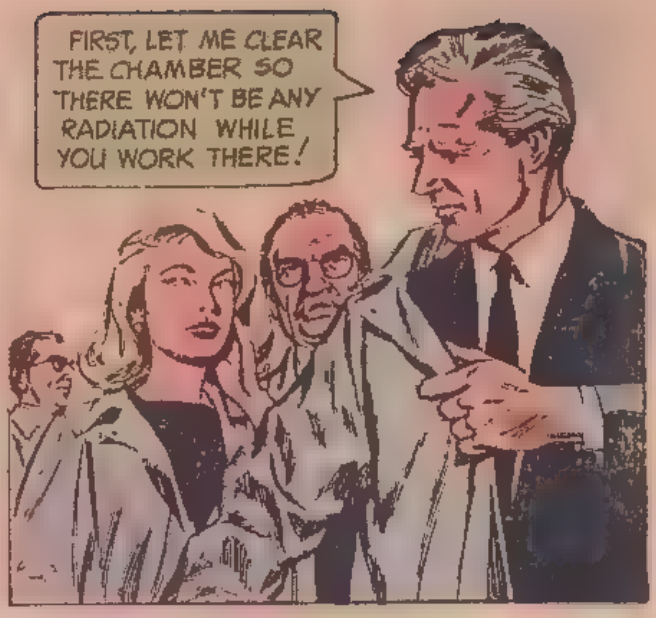

AND IN HIS LAB, WHERE HE HAS BEEN WATCHING THE STARTLING DEMONSTRATION...
THE RADIATION IS ESCAPING! THE WHOLE STAFF IS IN DANGER!

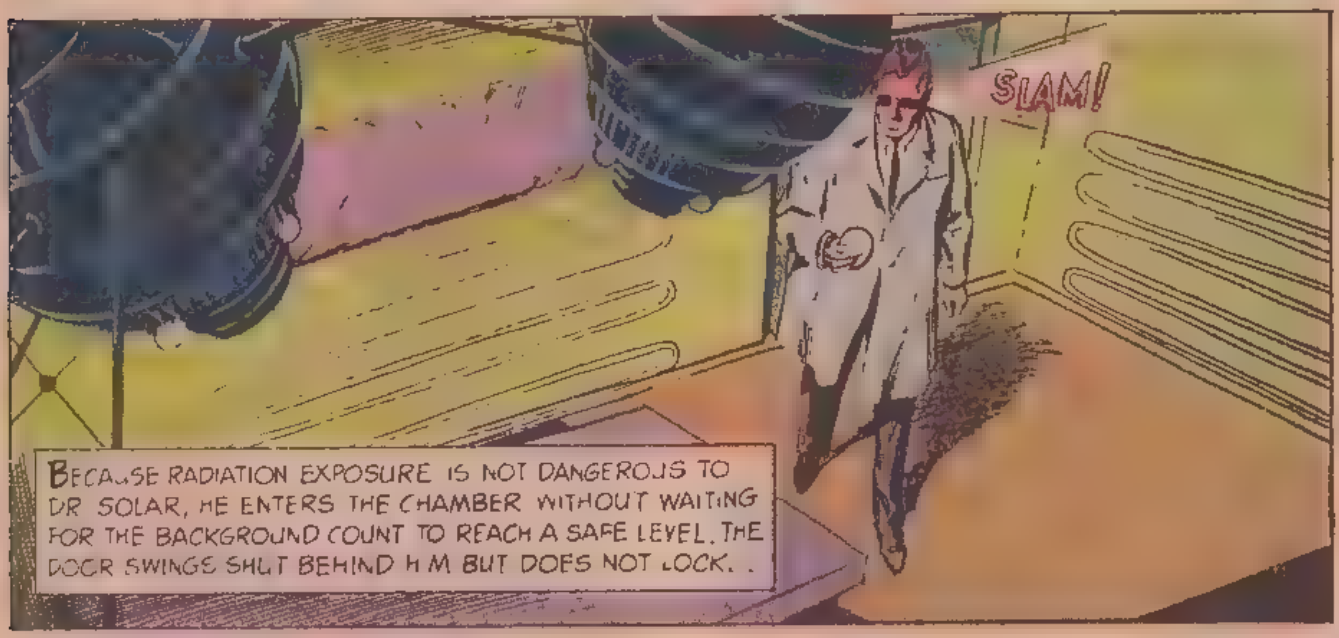

CLEAR THE ROOM! CHECK YOUR DOSIMETERS TO SEE HOW MUCH RADIATION YOU'VE BEEN EXPOSED TO!

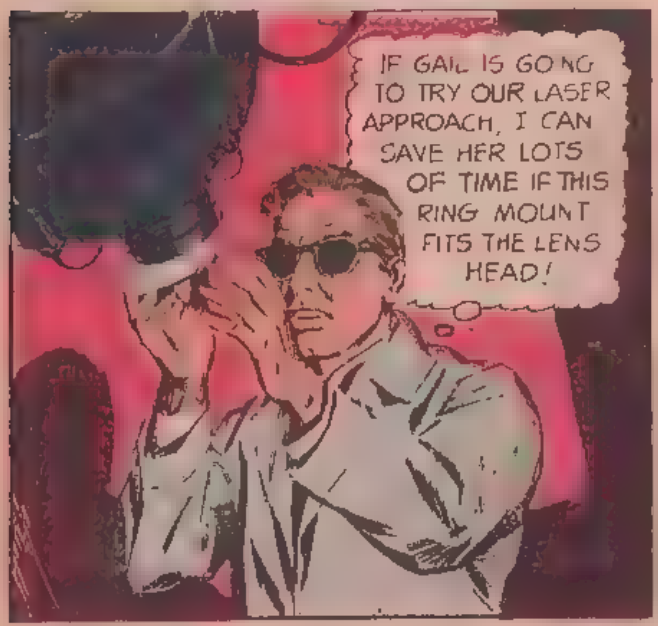

MINUTES LATER, WEARING PROTECTIVE CLOTHING, FOR WHICH HE HAS NO NEED EXCEPT TO PROTECT HIS SECRET, DR. SOLAR MAKES A CHECK!
HERE'S THE LEAK--BY THE OBSERVATION WINDOW!

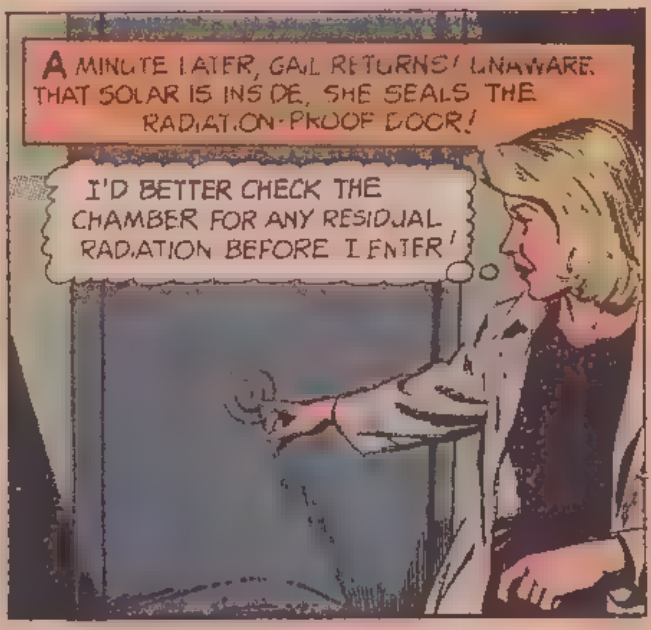
QUICKLY, HE ENTERS THE CHAMBER AND MAKES THE NECESSARY REPAIRS...
IS IT ALL CHECKED OUT?
YES! THERE WAS A SMALL LEAK NEAR THE WINDOW -- I'VE REPAIRED IT!
LATER, THE DEMONSTRATION IS RESUMED...
THE METER SHOWS THAT THE TISSUE IS STILL GIVING OFF FIVE HUNDRED ROENTGENS! NOW OBSERVE!
BZZZZZ
.. AND TEN MINUTES...
IT'S UNBELIEVABLE! ONLY FIFTY ROENTGENS REMAIN IN THE TISSUE!
BUT THE PROBLEM STILL TO BE SOLVED IS HOW TO WITHDRAW ALL RADIATION!


DR. SOLAR AND I HAVE WORKED ON LASERS THAT CONCENTRATE LIGHT BEAMS! MAY I TRY PUTTING A LASER CONCENTRATOR ON YOUR MACHINE?
CERTAINLY, GAIL!


FIRST, LET ME CLEAR THE CHAMBER SO THERE WON'T BE ANY RADIATION WHILE YOU WORK THERE!


SLAM!
BECAUSE RADIATION EXPOSURE IS NOT DANGEROUS TO DR SOLAR, HE ENTERS THE CHAMBER WITHOUT WAITING FOR THE BACKGROUND COUNT TO REACH A SAFE LEVEL. THE DOOR SWINGS SHUT BEHIND HIM BUT DOES NOT LOCK. .

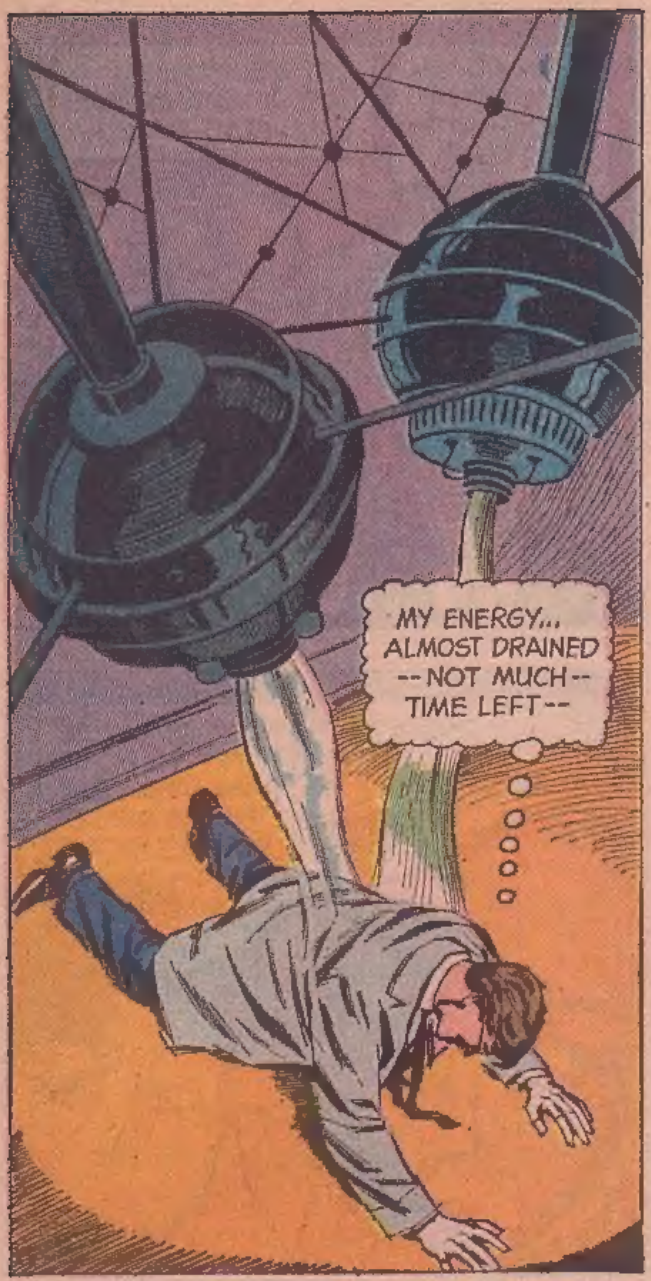

IF GAIL IS GOING TO TRY OUR LASER APPROACH, I CAN SAVE HER LOTS OF TIME IF THIS RING MOUNT FITS THE LENS HEAD!

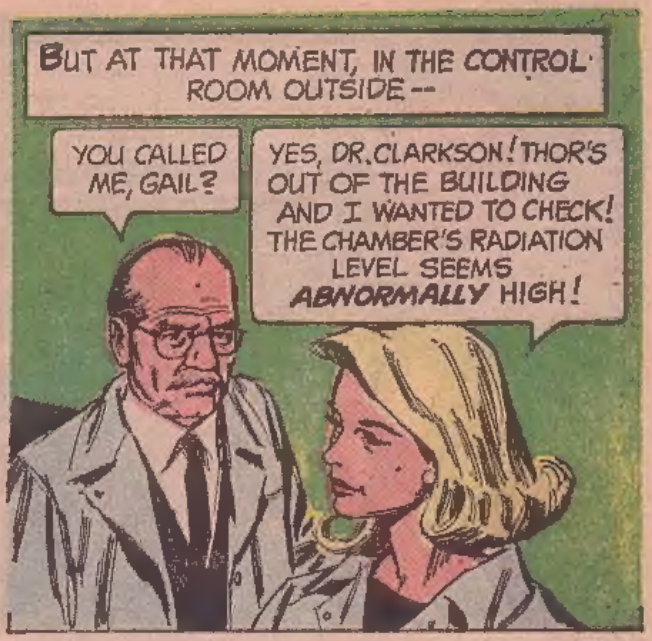

A MINUTE LATER, GAIL RETURNS! UNAWARE THAT SOLAR IS INSIDE, SHE SEALS THE RADIATION-PROOF DOOR!
I'D BETTER CHECK THE CHAMBER FOR ANY RESIDUAL RADIATION BEFORE I ENTER!

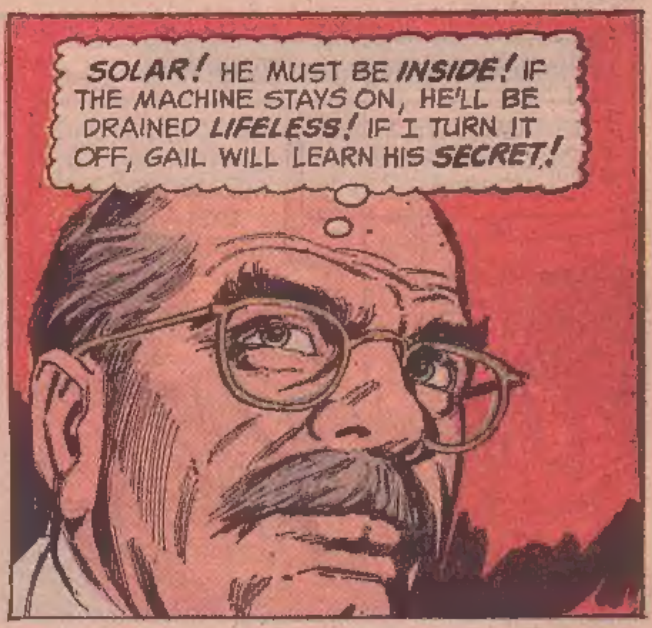
CRUNK!
SOMEONE SEALED THE DOOR!
IT'S USELESS! -NO ONE CAN HEAR ME THROUGH THESE THICK WALLS!
WHILE IN THE CONTROL ROOM ...
STRANGE! THE RESIDUAL RADIATION IN THE CHAMBER IS VERY HIGH!
THOR'S DEVICE MUST HAVE JUST WITHDRAWN THE RADIATION FROM ITS TARGET, BUT LEFT A HIGHER LEVEL OF BACKGROUND RADIATION IN THE ROOM! I'LL HAVE TO DERADIATE THE WHOLE ROOM!
BZZZAAP!
SOMEONE HAS TURNED ON THE MACHINE! MY ENERGY WILL BE DRAINED!

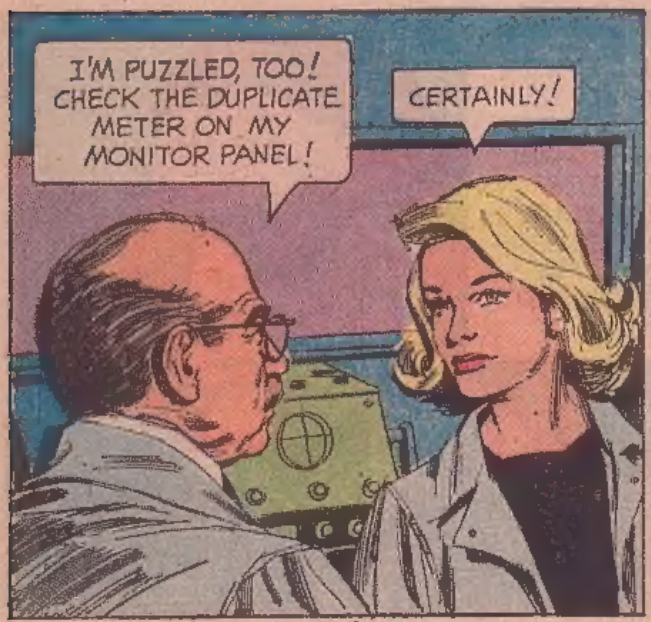
I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!--BUT HOW?-- HEAT! I CAN MELT A HOLE IN THE LEAD WALL!
CONCENTRATING, DR. SOLAR CONVERTS HIS ENERGY FROM ITS HUMAN SHAPE...
INTO A GLOWING BALL OF ATOMIC HEAT!
BUT AS THE FIERY RADIATION SEARS THE WALLS, THE NEAREST METAL--A COOLING SYSTEM BUILT INTO THE CHAMBER WALLS--SUDDENLY BEGINS TO MELT!
--AND THE COOLING FLUID, INTENDED AS A SAFETY DEVICE, RUSHES TOWARD THE FIREBALL!
WHOOSH!
FACED WITH SUDDEN DEATH FROM THE SPRAY, DR. SOLAR QUICKLY CONVERTS BACK INTO HIS HUMAN SHAPE...
HEAT WON'T WORK! BUT HOW CAN I GET ME OUT OF HERE BEFORE THAT RAY DRAINS MY LIFE ENERGY AWAY!

HOPING THAT HIGH SPEED GAMMA RAYS CAN PENETRATE THE WALLS DR. SOLAR CONCENTRATES...
AND HIS HUMAN FORM IS TRANSFORMED...
INTO A MASS OF HIGH-ENERGY DEADLY GAMMA RAYS...
BUT THE THICK LEAD WALLS ARE UNYIELDING
THE GAMMA RAYS BOUNCE OFF INEXORABLY FROM WALL TO WALL, AS PROFESSOR NELSEN'S MACHINE DRONES ON...
DEFEATED AGAIN, DR SOLAR RESUMES HIS HUMAN FORM FOR WHAT MAY BE THE *LAST* TIME!
NO USE--*CAN'T*--ESCAPE--


MY ENERGY... ALMOST DRAINED --NOT MUCH-- TIME LEFT--


BUT AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE CONTROL ROOM OUTSIDE--
YOU CALLED ME, GAIL?
YES, DR. CLARKSON! THOR'S OUT OF THE BUILDING AND I WANTED TO CHECK! THE CHAMBER'S RADIATION LEVEL SEEMS ABNORMALLY HIGH!


SOLAR! HE MUST BE INSIDE! IF THE MACHINE STAYS ON, HE'LL BE DRAINED LIFELESS! IF I TURN IT OFF, GAIL WILL LEARN HIS SECRET!


I'M PUZZLED, TOO! CHECK THE DUPLICATE METER ON MY MONITOR PANEL!
CERTAINLY!

AS GAIL RUSHES OFF...
SOLAR! SOLAR, AM I-- TOO LATE?

HERE! THIS RADIOACTIVE ISOTOPE SHOULD RESTORE YOUR ENERGY! DRINK!
TH-THANKS-- STILL FEEL-- WEAK--BUT-- BETTER!
LET ME HELP YOU OUT OF HERE BEFORE GAIL GETS BACK!
MINUTES LATER, GAIL RETURNS--
THE DUPLICATE METER RECORDED THE SAME READING!
WE FOUND A BAD CONNECTION TO THE METERS! THAT EXPLAINS THE HIGH READINGS!
WELL, I'D BETTER GET TO WORK! MY LASER MAY BE THE ANSWER TO THOR'S PROBLEM!
--AND SO GAIL AND THOR NEILSEN ARE READY TO CONTINUE WITH AN EXPERIMENT THAT COULD SAVE MANKIND FROM THE TERRORS OF RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT. BUT TO SOLAR, WHO NEEDS RADIATION TO LIVE, THE PROJECT CAN ONLY LEAD TO ULTIMATE DOOM!

KEYS OF KNOWLEDGE

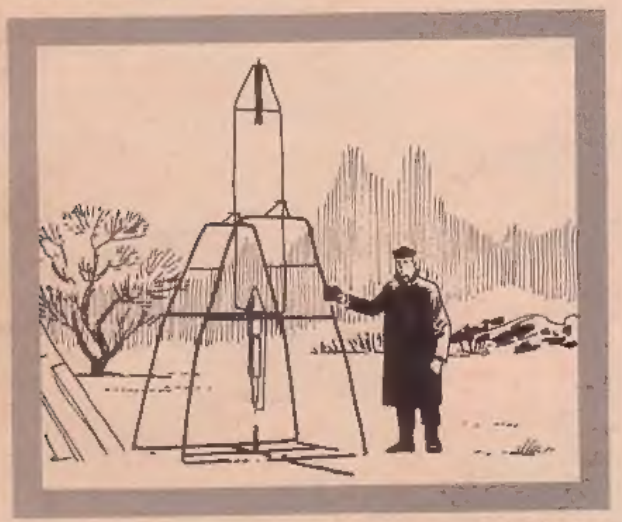
The HISTORY of FLIGHT

NUMBER 14

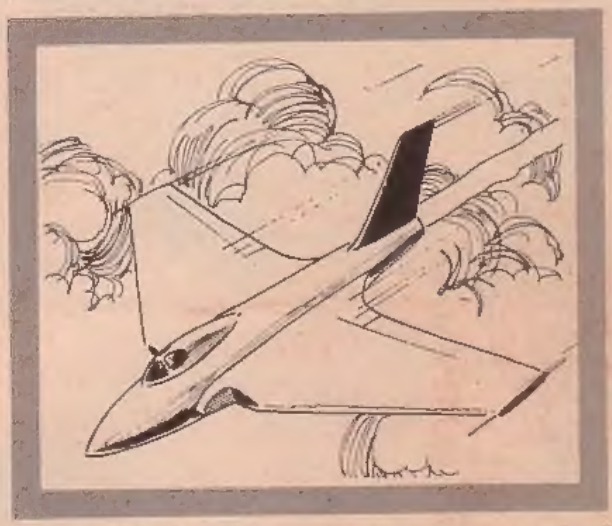
Fireworks in Space

This is one of a series of information features in Gold Key Comics. Collect the whole series for useful knowledge.

Today's space-probing rockets are a far cry from the skyrockets seen on the Fourth of July, but the principle is the same.



In 1926, Dr. Robert Goddard launched the first liquid fuel rocket and predicted that rockets would some day reach the moon.



Dr. Goddard's 1926 rocket flew at a speed of sixty miles per hour. In 1947, a rocket-powered craft exceeded 761 miles per hour.

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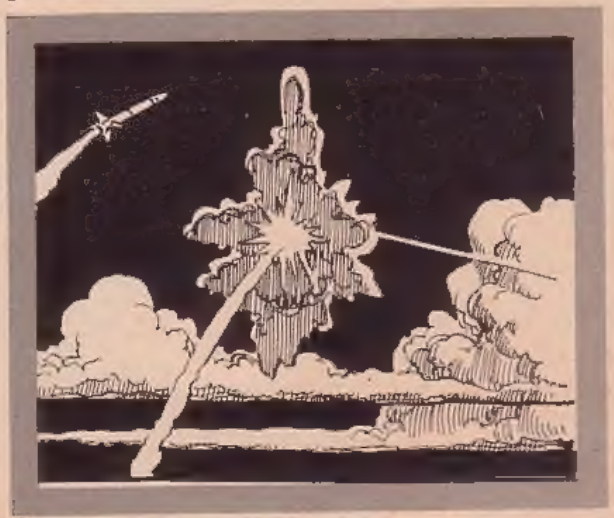
Recently, the X-15, a missile-shaped rocket plane, was dropped from a B-52 and was flown to speeds exceeding 3500 miles per hour.



Missiles that could be guided without human pilots were developed. They are able to seek out and destroy other missiles in the sky.

SOLAR PIN-UP NO. 4